

Hafa Adai!

Longtime DLNR chief laid to rest. **PAGE 2**  
CHCC to open outpatient pharmacy. **PAGE 3**

# Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXVII, Issue No. 72

[www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com)

WEDNESDAY APRIL 12, 2017

[www.facebook.com/saipantribune](http://www.facebook.com/saipantribune)

75¢

## CUC backs out from genset deal

By ERWIN ENCINARES  
[erwin\\_encinares@saipantribune.com](mailto:erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com)  
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. is back to the drawing board after both the CNMI House and Senate public transportation and utilities committees urged yesterday the corporation's board of directors to do so after both oversight hearings.

According to members of both PTUC committees, the CUC emergency procurement of single 8- to 10-megawatt engine to answer the increasing energy demands of certain business establishments on island was suspected to be "unethical and unlawful" after investigations from both committees found possible areas for conflicts of interest.

Both committees clarified first that they were not opposed to the idea of a new engine, but was rather disturbed by the procurement process.

Investigations by both committees found that CUC board chair Adelina Roberto notarized the articles of incorporation of their contractor, name-

See CUC on **Page 4**

**WAREHOUSE BURGLARY** A TBK Co. maintenance worker points to the damaged glass wall as well as the mess created by burglar or burglars that broke into the three-story warehouse for TBK and Dollar Days in San Antonio in the past two days. The warehouse was also burglarized at least thrice last year.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
See story on **Page 5**

## IPI committed to following federal, local immigration and labor laws

By JON PEREZ  
[jon\\_perez@saipantribune.com](mailto:jon_perez@saipantribune.com)  
REPORTER

Imperial Pacific International (CNI)



LLC yesterday issued a statement reaffirming that they are committed to enforce and follow all federal and local immigration and labor laws. They

also do not tolerate the practice of bringing in tourists who would work illegally on Saipan.

"Imperial Pacific unequivocally

states that it does not endorse any engagement of illegal labor and immigration practices. It is a requirement and condition of employment

that all employees of Imperial Pacific must comply with immigration laws and regulations," IPI said in the statement.

IPI made the statement after ma-  
See IPI on **Page 4**

## INSIDE



### NATION

A man walked into his estranged wife's elementary school classroom and opened fire without saying a word, killing her and an 8-year-old student before shooting himself.

**PAGE 14**



### WORLD

The United States has concluded Russia knew in advance of Syria's chemical weapons attack last week, a senior U.S. official said Monday.

**PAGE 16**



### FOCUS

A recent increase in power outages is taking a heavy toll on Puerto Rico as the U.S. territory's heavily indebted public power company struggles to modernize decades-old equipment.

**PAGE 17**



SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.



GOT A NEWS TIP?

TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440

FAX: 235-3740

EMAIL: [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com)

# Local

## Longtime DLNR chief laid to rest

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA  
kbautista1222@gmail.com  
REPORTER

Richard B. Seman, a man who relentlessly served and loved the island of Saipan, was laid to rest yesterday at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

The funeral mass for the late secretary of the Department of Lands and Natural Resources and former member of the House of Representatives was held yesterday at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Cathedral Church in Chalan Kanoa.

Dozens attended Seman's burial at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery including family and friends, government officials led by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Victor B. Hocog, and members of the community.

Vinyacia Seman, one of Seman's five children, shared what made her father a great man.

According to Vinyacia, her father was an advocate for equality in the island and the preservation of its beauty. He made sure that he spoke up against what he did not deem fair and always puts the needs of the CNMI people first.

"He was champion for indigenous rights and always spoke out against any more federal regulations and takeovers. During his inauguration speech he emphasized how he was an NMI citizen first before an American citizen. He was a well-respected legislator who put the people first and always did what he thought was right and just, no matter how unpopular," Vinyacia told *Saipan Tribune*.

Seman was also a friend to all and he was always the funny guy. "He was always



KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA  
Department of Public Safety officers give Richard B. Seman their final salute at his funeral at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

that uncle that went around talking to all the kids at any family barbecue telling jokes and showing his thumb trick (detaches his thumb) to everyone," reminisced Vinyacia.

"He was a very spiritual man who always saw the good in people and always believed people could always better themselves. He was everyone's friend."

According to Vinyacia, her father greatly cared for the fishermen of the CNMI and was always looking for ways to help them. "He did extensive work seeking to improve the CNMI's fishing industry. He was the longest council member of the fisheries council. A friend to all fisherman."

Vinyacia's fondest memory

of her father was all the times he carried her to her bed after a long night of watching movies together.

"All the way until I was about a freshman in high school, my dad would never leave me by myself if I fell asleep in the living room, nor did he ever bother to wake me up. No matter how big I got, he lifted me in his arms and carried me to my room. Even if he knew I wasn't really sleeping, he still did it."

Seman lived his life by his favorite saying, "Don't be bothered by what others think of you, but rather be concerned about what God thinks of you. Be faithful and love your neighbors." He was a man who lived true to his fa-

vorite saying.

Eliceo Cabrera, acting DLNR secretary following Seman's untimely death, also shared a few fond memories he had of his boss.

According to Cabrera, Seman and him were family friends. Seman and Cabrera have known each other from when they were still young boys and have been close ever since. "He is very fun to work with... We use to call and text each other regularly, as family. We also use to send each other funny cartoons for laughs and to send to the rest of the staff members," said Cabrera.

Cabrera said that Seman was a well-liked individual and he would never forget someone like him.



KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA  
Gov. Ralph DLG Torres shares a few words of comfort to the family of Richard B. Seman as he hands the CNMI flag to his wife Lorraine.



KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA  
Lorraine Seman says her goodbyes to her late husband, Richard B. Seman, at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

shoes but always kept the environment in mind.

He served as secretary for over four years. He had previous experience of being the department's secretary from the year 2004 until 2006 and resumed office again in January 2015 until his passing.

*See LONGTIME on Page 4*

*Live The Fiesta Way!*



**EASTER BRUNCH**

**WITH LIVE MAGICIAN!**

**World cafe**

**Easter Brunch The Fiesta Way!**

**Roast Beef, Suckling Pig, Mediterranean Whole Roast Lamb, Free flowing Sparkling Wine, Domestic Beer, Red and White Wine.**

Sunday, APRIL 16, 2017  
at the World Cafe  
\$40.00 for Adult,  
\$20.00 for children (4-11 years old)  
11:00am to 2:00pm

Registration for Easter Activities at 11:30am  
Glimmer Art Body Tattoos for Kids at 11:30am  
Egg Hunt at 12:45pm

Complimentary Pool Passes for every paying guest

Special price for CNMI residents.  
For reservations, please call at 233-6414, 483-0462 or 234-7171 extension 1548 or 1544.

**FIESTA**  
**Resort & SPA**  
**SAIPAN**  
A TanHoldings Company

# CHCC to open outpatient pharmacy

After more than 15 years, Saipan will once again have a nonprofit pharmacy at the CNMI's only hospital. The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. will open its own outpatient

pharmacy in September of this year and will sell prescription and over-the-counter drugs for outpatient use.

The CHCC aims to help those with low incomes afford

their prescriptions. The corporation will use federal discount programs that are designed to help public, nonprofit health care organizations purchase eligible drugs at a lower

cost so the savings can be passed on to the patient. The CHCC's outpatient pharmacy will also supply drugs for the HIV/STD, family planning, and TB programs.

## Cavalear testifies how 2 Corrections officers allegedly beat him up

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
ferdie\_de\_latorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Ryan Cavalear, a 34-year-old man who said he is an Army veteran and broke his back during his military service, testified yesterday how two Corrections officers beat him up last year at the Department of Corrections where he was then an inmate.

Assistant attorney general Matthew Baisley called Cavalear to the stand as the government's second witness at the start yesterday of a Superior Court bench trial of Corrections Officer Ray Anthony Maratita Camacho.

The government's first witness was former DOC Commissioner Georgia Cabrera. Cabrera was the DOC commissioner when the alleged police brutality happened at pod 2 exit door on April 1, 2016. It was Cabrera who called the assistance of police detective Catherine Pangelinan on April 4, 2016 for help

to follow up Cavalear's police brutality complaint against Corrections officers Camacho and Admisen Dasio Haddy. Haddy signed a plea deal with the government.

Cavalear testified that on April 1, 2016 he was supposed to receive his medication for pain from his oral surgery upon a nurse's instruction.

Cavalear said he was yelling at the intercom because his pain medication was apparently lost and that he was frustrated, was angry, and was in so much pain.

"I raised my voice, but I did not break the law," he said, adding that officers Camacho and Haddy along with two other officers came to his cell.

Cavalear said Camacho was telling him he was lying and "a big mouth American."

He said Camacho grabbed his arm as he explained it's his right to receive medication.

"I was in pain and was scared," said Cavalear, adding that Camacho grabbed his

neck while he was sitting on the bed and pulled him up off the bed.

He said Camacho headlocked him and that he could not breath. He said Camacho then threw him on the floor. He said Camacho then strangled his neck and Haddy's left knee landed on his right shoulder. He said one officer grabbed his legs.

Cavalear said he was shouting to stop because he was not resisting and his back hurts.

He said Camacho and Haddy slammed his head to the steel door. He said Haddy and Camacho stepped on his feet and Camacho punched his face.

Cavalear later said he was not sure whether Camacho punched him or slapped his face.

Pangelinan stated in her report that she reviewed the footage of DOC's surveillance cameras and observed Cavalear being handcuffed from the back and was not resisting.

Baisley played in court some footages of the incident.

Cavalear will resume his testimony today, Wednesday. The trial will continue at 8:30am with the government's expert witness then followed by either Cavalear or Cabrera again.

Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo is presiding over the bench trial. Defense attorney Colin Thompson is counsel for Camacho.

Camacho is on trial for assault and battery, and disturbing the peace. Haddy, who is Camacho's co-defendant, had already entered a guilty plea.

According to Baisley in the information, Camacho and Haddy applied excessive force in handling Cavalear on multiple occasions, including handcuffing him while not resisting; pulling back victim's arm with excessive force and to cause pain; forcing victim's head and neck down with excessive force and to cause pain; stepping on the victim's arms and body in opposite directions.

*See CAVALEAR on Next Page*

According to CHCC CEO Esther Muna, "It's not easy to find opportunities that can help us sustain operations while improving health outcomes, so we're very excited about this. With our own pharmacy, we can make certain that our patients are getting the medicine they need at the lowest possible price. We expect that better access to medication will help people stay out of a hospital bed. We'll even be able to generate revenue to reinvest into the Corporation."

Chronic illnesses including high blood pressure and diabetes are some of the most common population health concerns in the CNMI. The treatment of these illnesses often requires the use of long-term medication. Although treating symptoms of these diseases and preventing related problems is possible with lifestyle changes and medication, many CHCC patients do not take their medications as prescribed.

"There are many factors that contribute to the problem of patients not taking their

medication. Cost and communication barriers are probably the most common reasons our patients don't take their medicine like they should. We hope to help patients tackle these hurdles with our own pharmacy," stated Special Assistant Kaitlyn Neises-Mocanu.

Plans to begin remote dispensing, otherwise known as telepharmacy, on Tinian and Rota are also being made. Remote dispensing would allow the outpatient pharmacy to operate on the islands of Tinian and Rota.

Although the CHCC continues to face challenges with staff nurses due to the CW visa shortage, the CHCC is in a better position with pharmacy staff, according to Muna. (PR)

**ARMATECH**  
  
Generator  
Rewinding  
Services and  
Maintenance  
Tel: (670) 234-8895 • Fax: (670) 234-8894  
Mobile: (670) 287-5525 / (670) 783-8895

## DPA CAR MART

WEEKLY SHIPMENT OF QUALITY PRE-OWNED VEHICLE FROM U.S. MAINLAND

We accept special order, name it and will bring it here!  
DOWN PAYMENT AS LOW AS \$1,000.00  
Call 287-8688/235-8688 or visit DPA CAR MART in San Antonio  
[www.dpacarmart.com](http://www.dpacarmart.com)

**Customers First**  
**TRIPLE J**

**TRIPLE J SAIPAN, INC.**  
is now accepting applications  
for experienced:

**BAKER**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE HIRE**

Must have a baking and pastry degree or its equivalent as well as 4 years management experience in a bakery. In addition, should be able to produce quality breads and pastry, be creative and train personnel in the bakery.

**OFFERS COMPETITIVE SALARY AND BENEFITS.**

Apply online at:  
[www.triplejsaipan.com/employment-application/](http://www.triplejsaipan.com/employment-application/)

**Triple J is an Equal Opportunity Employer.**

**WELCOME TO Fabulous SAIPAN VEGAS**  
RESORT AND SLOT CLUB NOW OPEN!

Come and experience the fun and great promos for players.

Special April Promo Player Buffet Dinner \$1.99 7pm-10pm Mon-Sat

A little Las Vegas style in paradise.

Fabulous Player Promotions

Hourly Cash Draws every night

Midnight mega draws: Flat screen TV & other prizes (see venue for details)

A Fabulous Big 12,000 Watt Karaoke System Midnight Mega Draw Prize! Fri & Sat night

Big Floor-wide jackpots up to \$10,000 to be won!

Live Entertainment – Friday & Saturday nights

Location: Middle Road (next to McDonald's) • Hours: 12:00pm – 4:00am (Monday – Thursday)  
24 hours (Friday & Saturday)

**CUC***From Page 1*

ly General Pacific Services Marianas Inc. or GPSM with Amelia Toelkes as GPSM president, Philip Roberto as vice president, and Kimberly Smith as treasurer-secretary.

After further investigation, Roberto admitted to both committees that Philip is Roberto's stepson. Philip Roberto used to work for Robert Toelkes, president of now bankrupt International Bridge Corp. Toelkes owes the government of Guam a total of \$4.8 million in business tax and the U.S. Internal Revenue Service \$9.2 million in taxes.

Roberto later told *Saipan Tribune* that it seems CUC is back to the "drawing board" as far as the GPSM deal is

concerned.

Another relationship that was questioned was Albert Taitano as GPSM's registered agent. Investigations by both committees found that Taitano and his son, along with Philip Roberto, were related to GPSM; Taitano's son and Philip Roberto currently work for Guam Sen. James Espaldon (R-Guam), who is a spokesman and representative for the GPSM contract.

Both Senate PUTC chair Sen. Sixto Igisomar (R-Saipan) and House PUTC member Rep. Edward Propst (Ind-Saipan) questioned the relationship of Adelina and Philip Roberto during their respective hearings and whether Adelina was aware of Taitano being registered as GPSM's agent.

Roberto told both committees that she was not aware of

Philip Roberto acting as vice president for GPSM and Taitano acting as registered agent when she was presented the documents for notarization.

"When I did the notary for Amelie Toelkes and Smith, the documents sent to me were their documents. I looked at their identification and it matched. That is what I notarized. Anything after what I notarized—the initial articles of incorporation and affidavit—I have no knowledge. The name of director Taitano, as [Igisomar] mentioned, was not included in the package that I notarized," she told the Senate PUTC.

"Philip Roberto being a vice president then, [was out of my knowledge]. I [did not know], so I do not see myself [as having a conflict of interest]. All I notarized was the documents presented to me by

Amelia Toelkes as an affidavit with the by-laws and articles with no indication that they were purchasing an engine for CUC," she added.

Documentation showing Roberto signing as a notary public for Saipan was dated March 23, 2016.

**Fraudulent behaviors?**

House PUTC member Propst was pushing for a total cancellation of the procurement, going as far as saying there were "serious problems" with GPSM itself.

"I see no flaws here. I see a serious problem here," Propst said to the CUC management and board.

Propst questioned GPSM's credibility, as GPSM was incorporated in March 2016, while claiming partnership with Fairbanks Morse. Propst

asked William Gilmore, CUC deputy executive and chair for the CUC selection committee, if he confirmed the partnership. The latter did confirm, but then found out that GPSM did not have a partnership with Fairbanks Morse.

According to Gilmore, GPSM represented themselves as "partners with Fairbanks Morse."

"On one page [of documents obtained by Propst], [GPSM] claims they have a partnership. On the second day of negotiations, we find that there is in fact no partnership. Is Amelia Toelkes and GPSM a partner or an agent for Fairbanks Morse?" asked Propst.

Gilmore, who found out the second day of negotiations that there was no partnership, said, "We found out on the second day that GPSM would be the primary contractor for the project and Fairbanks Morse would be stepping back and be a sub-contractor."

"A no-experience company—less than a year old—is willing to come in and procure a single 8- to 10-megawatt generator, correct?" asked Propst.

Gilmore confirmed Propst's question. According to Propst, there were disturbing red flags that could be found by people that had no expertise in engines.

Propst summarized his findings, claiming that his investigations discovered additional financials included in the request for quotation. The additional finances belonged to a reported GSP, LLC.

"The financials were not of GPSM," said Propst.

According to Propst, further investigations of the GPSM documents claim that GPSM was established since 1983.

"In the front pages of the documents, [GPSM referred to

themselves] as a new company but in the back, they claim that they have several projects that were completed in Micronesia since 1983. Which one is it?" asked Propst.

According to Gilmore, GPSM indicated that documents presented to CUC were brochures and nothing else.

Senate PUTC chair Igisomar told the media that the appearance of a conflict of interest should be enough for the members to voluntarily recuse themselves from discussions pertaining to the procurement.

"In order to better the processing of contracts in the CNMI, a mandatory automatic conflict of interest form should be available for every contract and agreement must fill out—whether there is a conflict or not," he said.

Future legislation on the forms has not been confirmed.

House PUTC chair Francisco Dela Cruz (R-Saipan) told reporters that the hearing was mostly about the board and management's lack of transparency on the issue.

"The committee asked for the cancellation of the proposed purchase with GPSM and immediately restart the process," further reiterating the need for a new engine to address the future power needs of Saipan.

Of the four CUC board members present during the proceedings, only David Sablan Jr. chose to take an oath and swear to tell the truth. CUC executive director Gary Camacho, deputy director William Gilmore, and CFO Antonio Castro also took the oath.

Aside from Sablan and Roberto, other CUC board members in attendance were Eric San Nicolas and Ike Perez. Albert Taitano only took part in the portion of the Senate hearing. Joe Torres was absent.

**LONGTIME***From Page 2*

Seman started off his career as a director for the Division of Fish and Wildlife. He stayed in this division for more than five years. He was the division's director from April 1998 until January 2004.

Seman also served as a director for the Division of Agriculture. He served this division for over a year. He served in this division from December 2008 until July of 2010.

After serving the Agriculture division of the department, Seman moved back to the Division of Fish and Wildlife as an aquatic educational specialist. He served in this division for over a year starting in April 2011 until January 2013.

For over five years, Seman was also publisher and editor for the *Marianas Fishing Magazine*. He started on September 2007 and left that line of work in June 2013.

Seman was also a representative for the 18th Northern Marianas Island Legislature. He served for about four years before returning to serving as secretary of the Department of Land and Natural Resource in 2015.

Seman was also an active member of several boards such as the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council.

Seman was survived by his wife Lorraine Seman, five children Vincencia, Lori-sha, Rick, Anthony, John; and eight grandchildren Cameron, Aleah, Kenyon, Milan, Aidan, Logun, Cali, and Luke.

**CAVALEAR***From Page 3*

reaction with excessive force and to cause pain; hitting the victim in the face while he was restrained, "as well as other unlawful acts of striking, beating, or wounding the victim."

**CBP***From Page 1*

"Japan expressed an interest in the preclearance expansion program and we're optimistic this would push through. The first application is for Narita [International Airport] and there are also plans to also include Kansai after they applied in spring of last year," said Humphrey.

He added that once the program kicks off in Japan they would also look into adding South Korea, Chinese-Taipei, and possibly China as likely candidates for the preclearance system.

There are currently 15 locations in six countries where the U.S. has preclearance of air travelers. They are in Canada, Ireland, the United Arab Emirates, Bermuda, Aruba, and the Bahamas where over 600 CBP officers and agricultural specialists are stationed to screen and process more than 17.5 million U.S.-bound passengers annually.

CBP Field Operations Ha-

waii Area Port director Bruce Murley and Saipan Port director Robert Havens joined Humphrey in Monday's meeting at the House chamber of the Hon. Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building in Capital Hill where local legislators asked them various questions on airport and immigration clearance issues.

Preclearance's concept is to have the passengers, who are about to leave in countries that have the CBP facility, be processed by CBP officers before they board their direct flight to the U.S.

Passengers and their baggage would go through the same process of getting cleared by immigration, Customs, and agriculture inspection by CBP officers and agriculture specialists in the preclearance program.

They would no longer fall in line when they arrive at their destination since their immigration documents, screening, and other inspection was done in their country of origin that has CBP's preclearance facility.

Humphrey said the preclearance program would be a big help to the CNMI. "They [tourists] would arrive here without going in line since they have already been processed. So it would cut the waiting time and the long lines."

He added that CBP would work with the CNMI Division of Customs where they had already discussed this with director Jose Mafnas. "CNMI Customs officials could join us in Japan for operation and processing purposes."

**Other options**

Humphrey said they had already met with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP) and told them automating the conditional parole program is another option that they are looking at.

"There are a number of factors that need to come together to answer the question on wait times. We're going to work with the CNMI government on the matter of conditional parole and to make sure we make it a better process. Not to lose the proce-

dure that's already in place but to modernize and automate it," said Humphrey.

The Marianas Visitors Authority had already purchased four automated passport control machines that would soon be installed in kiosks at the airport. MVA is waiting for its arrival.

"We [CBP, Torres, and Sablan] made a commitment of working together to make the work better for the CNMI. It is a combination of modernizing the parole screening process and working with carriers to also educate their passengers to prepare their complete documents before they arrive here," added Humphrey.

"Rather than lining up with incomplete papers when they present themselves to be processed. If they present themselves having not completed their documents, the CBP officer has no choice but to turn them away, and put them back in queue once their papers are in order."

**A longer version of this story is available at [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com)**

**IPI***From Page 1*

jority of the more than 1,000 laborers working at IPI's multi-million dollar Imperial Pacific Resort were found to have entered the CNMI as tourists.

MCC International, IPI's subcontractor in building the casino hotel, was among the companies that allegedly hired Chinese workers who entered the Commonwealth using parole authority.

"Imperial Pacific is under strenuous obligations and will continue to enforce company policies and implement measures that comply and further strengthen its compliance with local and federal laws and regulations,

especially those that governs and promotes legal labor and immigration practices."

**Kelly given info on NMI visa programs**

United States Customs and Border Patrol Field Operations director Brian J. Humphrey said they have already explained to Department of Homeland Security Secretary John F. Kelly the United States visa programs that are implemented in the CNMI.

The China and Russian tourism markets hold a parole authority when traveling to the CNMI, while Japanese and Korean visitors enjoy the visa waiver program when they visit the Commonwealth. Foreign workers in the Commonwealth are under the CNMI-Only Transitional Nonimmigrant Worker

visa program.

Informing the current DHS head is part of the protocol since he is part of the new administration of President Donald Trump. Trump has shown a tougher stance on border protection and immigration issues since being sworn in last January.

Improving immigration enforcement and border security is among the first executive orders that Trump had signed since taking office on Jan. 20. He signed the EO on Jan. 25.

Immigration issues became a hot button topic in the CNMI after incidents of overstaying tourists and others working illegally were uncovered recently.

Section 11 of Trump's EO states that the executive department could cancel the parole and asylum provisions

if found it is being abuse. Subsection A allows the DHS Secretary to immediately take action to make sure the parole and asylum provisions of Federal immigration laws are not illegally exploited.

"The final decision for the visa programs is up to [DHS] Secretary. He has the discretion to continue the [conditional] parole. And since we have a new administration, [Secretary Kelly] had asked information about the parole and what it means," said Humphrey.

"We have provided him with the numbers and other information for him to weigh on his decision and on where he wants to go. Until then, we continue with the parole program and execute in on a case-by-case basis."

# Probable cause found against man accused of raping tourist

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho found yesterday probable cause to charge a man accused of raping a female tourist at his apartment in Garapan.

At a preliminary hearing, Camacho found probable cause to believe that the crimes of sexual assault in the

first degree and disturbing the peace were committed and the person who may have committed such offenses is Min Wei Huang.

Camacho ordered the 30-year-old Huang to answer the charges.

Camacho, however, ruled that he heard the testimony

of the witness and found no probable cause to believe that the crimes of sexual assault in the second degree and assault and battery as the offenses are lesser-included of sexual assault in the first degree.

The judge dismissed the two charges without prejudice.

Dismissed without prejudice means the government may refile the charges in the future.

Assistant attorney general Teri C. Tenorio, counsel for the government, called police detective Myron Laniyo to the witness stand. Chief public defender Douglas Hartig served as counsel for Huang.

Arraignment will be on April 17 at 9am.

After the hearing, Huang was remanded into the custody of the Department of Corrections. The court ear-

lier imposed a \$50,000 cash bail on him.

Police said the victim was taken to the hospital for bruises on the inner left thigh, back of left thigh, left lower leg, and bruises and scratches on the upper left arm. She had scratches on her left elbow, a bite mark on the left arm, and scratches on the right lower eye.

The tourist told police that after playing games at a casino last Sunday early morning, she went to her apartment but her roommate never woke up to open the door. Huang, who stays on the first floor of the apartment, offered his extra room in his unit.

While she was sleeping in Huang's extra room, she was awakened to find the defendant already on top of her. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

## AS APRIL DECLARED SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

# Survivors made to feel shame and fear

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA  
kbautista1222@gmail.com  
REPORTER

Sexual assault is any form of sexual act without consent. It is a global problem that happens even in the Northern Marianas Islands.

Although sexual assault is happening at a very high rate, many remain silent about it because of shame and fear.

Lt. Gov. Victor B. Hocog with board members of the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence recently signed a proclamation designating April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

The month of April will be designated to help those who have been sexually assaulted speak up about their experiences and help them recover from trauma.

According to the proclamation, which was signed last April 3 at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe, sexual assault does not

discriminate. Although there are groups that are more vulnerable to it, anyone can be a victim regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, faith, or ability.

One in five women and one in 71 men will be raped in some point in their lives. One in six boys and one in four girls will experience sexual assault before the age of 18. Youth ages 12 to 17 are two and a half times more likely to be victims of sexual assault or even rape, added the proclamation.

Survivors of sexual assault usually feel a sense of shame and fear making it hard to get the help they need. Because the assault are not reported, victims don't get the justice and service they need and put the rest of the community in danger of sexual offenders who were not held accountable for their crimes.

Sexual assault leaves a long lasting impact on the lives of victims and survivors. The im-

pact is usually psychological, emotional, and in some cases physical.

The purpose of Sexual Assault Awareness Month, according to the proclamation, is to give hope and support for all those who have been assaulted. The month of April is designated to providing space and support to members of the community to openly speak out and demand safety for the people of the Commonwealth.

This year's theme is "Engaging All Voices. The theme is meant to inspire the community to use their voices to make a change.

Dedicated citizens of the Commonwealth with the Coalition will be working together to ensure quality services to assist survivors of Sexual assault. Citizens may participate in the Island's Sexual Assault Team as staff for a 24-hour shelter, citizens may volunteer to answer the 24-hour help line, they may respond

to emergency calls, help in providing forensic exams, and may also offer support, comfort and advocacy during criminal justice proceedings.

The proclamation encourages the community to join in partnership with the coalition, the Division of Youth Services, and the Family Violence Task force to enforce Sexual assault awareness and to bring hope for healing to all victims and survivors.

## 3-story house in San Antonio burglarized twice in 2 days

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

A three-story warehouse in San Antonio was burglarized twice in the past two days and still undetermined items were stolen.

Businessman Ta Bun Kuy said burglarized was his warehouse for TBK Co. and Dollar Days that contains clothes, gift items, and other merchandize.

Kuy said the burglar or burglars managed to get inside the building by breaking the glass wall on the second floor on Monday.

Kuy said his workers covered with a metal the hole created in the burglary.

## Kagman cluster schools schedule PTSA meeting

This is to inform all parents, guardians, and the community that the Kagman cluster schools will be having a PTSA meeting on Thursday, April 20, 2017, from 5pm to 6pm at the Kagman Elementary School cafeteria. We are encouraging all parents and guardians to attend this meeting. Please call the school at 237-3921 or 664-4100 if you have any question or concerns. Your support and understanding is appreciated. (PR)

The businessman said the suspect or suspects, however, went inside again either Monday night or early morning yesterday, this time breaking the glass wall next to the portion that was earlier damaged and already covered.

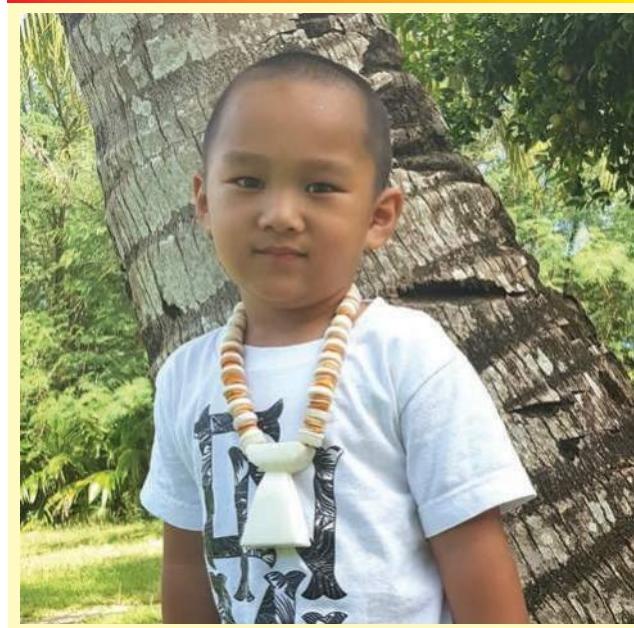
Kuy said they called the police after each incident but that he is worried that break-ins will happen again today, Wednesday.

The warehouse used to be the Hollywood Classic Building.

Bong Dungca, 40, maintenance for TBK, said the warehouse has been burglarized since 2015, but that last year alone break-ins happened at least thrice.

Another worker said they could not tell what was stolen in the past two days because the warehouse has been messy after burglars scattered the items since last year.

## BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 4th birthday to Elijah Jude Concepcion! Wishing you a life of love, blessings and happiness! We love you so much! You're our best friend ever. Love, Mommy, Daddy, and Jilly.

## The perfect occasion to cherish the bond of family.

EASTER BRUNCH  
at Giovanni's and Kili Cafe & Terrace  
Sunday, 16 April 2017

Break bread with family and friends for Easter and leave the cooking to us. With a scrumptious buffet spread featuring a live carving station of Certified Angus Beef® rib eye, slow roasted leg of lamb and shawarma live station. The buffet includes free-flowing beer, wine and iced tea.

Price: US\$55 per person and  
US\$35 Club at the Hyatt® Members  
Reservations are highly recommended. Please call +1 670 234 1234 ext 26

From 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM, Easter Egg Hunt at the Garden. Admission is US\$15 per child and US\$5 for Easter Brunch child dining with their parents. Photos with the Easter bunny will be in the hotel lobby every hour starting at 10:30 AM.

  
**HYATT**  
REGENCY  
SAIPAN

# Attorney General welcomes new prosecutor

The Office of the Attorney General is pleased to announce the addition of its newest assistant attorney general, Teri Tenorio.

Tenorio is from the CNMI's neighbor island of Guam. She joins the OAG's Criminal Division with over six years of experience in the legal field.

Prior to her employment with the CNMI OAG, Tenorio served as a special assistant to the Governor of Guam, in which she was tasked to gather, compile, and assess the efficiency of government-administered programs.

"It is with great pleasure to have Teri onboard and officially ready to serve the CNMI community. We are happy that she has chosen to continue her path as an assistant attorney general here in the CNMI," said Attorney General Edward Manibusan.

Before serving the Office of the Governor of Guam, Tenorio was an assistant attorney general with the Office of the Attorney General in Guam, where she served as a criminal prosecutor for five years.

She prosecuted various felony crimes, including aggravated murder, aggravated assault, burglary, family violence stalking, and criminal sexual conduct. Tenorio managed thousands of misdemeanor and felony cases, tried

REME COURT



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CNMI Supreme Court Chief Justice Alejandro C. Castro swears in assistant attorney general Teri Tenorio while Attorney General Edward Manibusan and Tenorio's family look on.

over 15 jury trials, and trained newly hired attorneys.

"I am excited for the opportunity to experience another source of our rich Chamoru history, language, and scenery in the beautiful CNMI as well as the flourishing diversity of cultures. In the last six months, I have travelled for the first time to three different islands and have left each time feeling my cup runneth over. The opportu-

nity to work in a profession that I enjoy while living in a community I love does not feel like work—I feel as though I belong here, and I'm simply doing my share. So, thank you, CNMI, for the warm hospitality and allowing me to be a part of this community," said Tenorio.

Tenorio earned her Bachelor of Science in Applied Science from Campbell University in North Carolina in

2003 and earned top honors by being placed on the Dean's and President's List. In May of 2009, she received her Juris Doctor, graduating cum laude, from Faulkner University, Thomas Goode Jones School of Law in Montgomery, Alabama. In addition to receiving her JD, Tenorio graduated in the top 10, earning her spot on the Dean's List, as well as receiving numerous awards for

her outstanding achievements.

Prior to her career as an attorney, Tenorio graduated from the U.S. Army Medical Center and School in which she earned Honor Graduate in Radiography. During her time in the U.S. Army Medical Corps, Tenorio held several leadership positions, including Platoon Sergeant, wherein she supervised an eight-person radiography team during Operation Iraqi

Freedom, NCOIC for Secretary of the General Staff, and Instructor for Commander's Physical Fitness Program. Tenorio was awarded NCO of the Year for the U.S. Army Medical Command and unanimously inducted by a board of Command Sergeants Major into the prestigious Sergeant Audie Murphy Club. Tenorio was sworn in last March 31 by Chief Justice Alejandro C. Castro. (OAG)



## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director

3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building  
P.O. Box 501220 CK Saipan, MP 96950-1220  
Telephone: (670) 664-4282 • Facsimile: (670) 235-5131



## INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-17-007

### CUC FACILITY FENCE REPAIRS

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the repair of security fences for multiple Saipan water facilities in need of fence repairs due to damage caused by typhoon Soudelor.

This project is funded by the United States Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **120 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **April 13, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

**One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies** must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "**CUC-IFB-17-007, CUC Facility Fence Repairs**", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on April 28, 2017**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **4:00 PM (ChST) on April 17, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email – [manny.sablan@cucgov.org](mailto:manny.sablan@cucgov.org) with a copy to Yvonne Cabrera, CUC Water/Wastewater Engineer – via email [yvonne.cabrera@cucgov.org](mailto:yvonne.cabrera@cucgov.org).

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY CAMACHO  
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN  
Purchasing Administrator



## Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Secretary of Public Works

2nd Floor Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950



## INVITATION FOR BIDS DPW-17-IFB-012

### TASI LANE ROAD IMPROVEMENT, SAIPAN

Governor Ralph Dg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for Tasi Lane Road Improvement, Saipan Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **April 5, 2017** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of **One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations currently in effect."

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

There will be a Pre-bid Conference for this project on **April 21, 2017, 9:00 a.m. local time** at Project Site, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **May 8, 2017 to Mr. George C. Sablan, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. It should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. George C. Sablan, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid. The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgement of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) calendar days before the scheduled bid opening.

Sealed bids must be marked "**DPW-17-IFB-012**". For bidders within the CNMI an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascension Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. local time May 11, 2017**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, May 11, 2017**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to [procurement@otcom.com](mailto:procurement@otcom.com). For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than May 11, 2017 and the bid documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **May 22, 2017**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascension Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, May 25, 2017**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:30 a.m. local time, on May 11, 2017**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashier's check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **\$70-30.3-245**. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI and

b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

- 1) Cash
- 2) US Gov't Securities
- 3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
- 4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US;
- 5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is One Hundred Twenty (120) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of Three Hundred (US\$300.00) for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

JAMES A. ADA  
Secretary of Public Works

HERMAN S. SABLAN  
Director of Procurement & Supply

## 21ST ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF CLASSIC

# Pacifica Insurance sponsors \$10K hole-in-one

The Hyatt Regency Saipan 21st Annual Charity Golf Classic has received a generous donation of \$10,000 from long-time business partner Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Inc.

The largest of possible cash prizes in the April 22 event at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort west course, this pot will be located in hole No.7 for one lucky golfer to win.

"A part of the island community for many years, Hyatt

Regency Saipan has consistently extended support to those in need. We've seen the countless good deeds the organization has taken part in. Pacifica Insurance is pleased to partner with Hyatt Regency Saipan for their 21st charity golf tournament, and we encourage our business community to do the same; share in the commitment to support meaningful causes," said Norman Tenorio, president and



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Pacifica Insurance senior underwriter/underwriting department head Jessica Sablan, Hyatt Regency Saipan director of rooms Rosalyn Quintanilla, Pacifica Insurance account executive/marketing coordinator/health department head Sidney Quan, Pacifica Insurance claims processor Janel Pangalinan; Hyatt Regency Saipan food and beverage director Tyrell Pauling, and Hyatt Regency Saipan marketing communications manager MariaValentina Haberman.

CEO of Pacifica Insurance.

With over 45 years of business experience, Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Inc. is a well-established insurance broker agency with a mission to provide the best coverage and service that exceeds expectations for both personal and commercial insurance needs.

A business visionary, Jose C. Tenorio worked alongside initial developers of equal entrepreneurial spirits and determination and organized investors formulating a corporation known as Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Inc. in the early 1970s; an opportune time where the CNMI economy was thriving. Representing some of the world's most distinct insurance carriers locally, PIUI offers an array of insurance options that can be tailored to a client's potential insurance needs. Under its current president Norman T. Tenorio, PIUI strives to go beyond providing insurance

coverage with their clients offering a level of customer service beyond expectations.

"Pacifica Insurance is consistently active in the community, and, extremely supportive with charitable events. We appreciate their continued support with our fundraising efforts for our 21st Annual Charity Golf Classic. It's through their involvement in charitable events that make our efforts that much more successful and notable. I would like to extend our gratitude to Norman and the Pacific Insurance team," said Hyatt Regency Saipan general manager Nick Nishikawa.

Grown in popularity over the years from being a fun golf tournament for Club At The Hyatt members to an island-wide charitable event; this year the Hyatt Regency Saipan Charity Golf Classic turns 21—a special year that most either remember or don't for the same reasons.

All proceeds donated to the Hyatt Regency Saipan 21st Annual Charity Golf Classic will go to the event's six beneficiaries to include: Make-A-Wish Foundation, aiding them in their mission to grant wishes to children with life-threatening diseases; Kagman High School Million Dollar Club, supporting CNMI high school students in preparation and travel to higher education; Marianas Behavioral Health International a rehabilitation center dedicated to provide support for those who want to make a positive change in their lives; Karidat Social Services, a local organization supporting the needs of the community; Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation, which assists impoverished women and children of the CNMI; and the Northern Marianas Humanities Council with a goal to focus on supporting the education of indigenous cultures of the CNMI.

As of Monday, April 10, the

Hyatt Regency Saipan 21st Annual Charity Golf Classic has successfully sold out 150 player slots. Special thanks to the early bird registrants and sponsors. If you are still interested in playing, please call 234-1234 ext. 26 to get on the waiting list prior to next Monday, April 17, to avail the early bird rate should a slot open up and receive a call from us directly.

Golfers are encouraged to invite a guest or two to the dinner banquet poolside, \$35 per person inclusive of free-flowing beverages and a dinner buffet featuring Certified Angus Beef cuts.

Raffle tickets in the amounts of \$1, \$5, and \$10 will be sold for an array of prizes from designer handbags to high-end golf gear to round-trip tickets to the Philippines, Japan, Korea, and Europe that will be paired with hotel nights in other Hyatt, Hyatt Regency, and Hyatt affiliate hotels. Prize packages as such will not be offered at any other tournament for the rest of 2017.

The core mission of the Hyatt Regency Saipan Charity Golf Classic is to care for others so they can be their best—at work and beyond. We fulfill this purpose by contributing within our communities through the contributions of partnering organizations like Pacifica Insurance.

Hyatt Regency Saipan will hold its 21st Annual Charity Golf Classic event on April 22 at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort west course. Registration forms can be downloaded from the Hyatt Regency® Saipan event page website: <http://bit.ly/2jF0MEn>

For more information please contact 234-1234 ext. 26. (PR)

## GES kindergarten student registration starts April 20

Registration of kindergarten students for school year 2017-2018 at Garapan Elementary School will start on April 20.

The registration times are from 8am to 4:30pm at the GES library.

New students registration for grades 1 to 5, meanwhile, will begin on June 7, 2017.

The requirements for registration include the following:

- Birth certificate
  - School Entrance Health Certificate from CHC or a private clinic (If you have an appointment slip please provide the school with a copy showing the appointment date)
  - Copy of updated Health Insurance (Medicaid, Moylan's, Traders Insurance, Aetna, Staywell, etc.)
  - Map to residence (please be aware of the zoning policy).
- GES also reminded par-

ents and guardians of the following:

- Child must be 5 years old to enter kindergarten. Dates of birth must be on or before Sept. 30, 2012.

- Child must be 6 years old to enter first grade. Dates of birth must be before Sept. 30, 2011.

GES Zoning include the villages and areas of the following:

- North Gualo Rai to Shell Puerto Rico
- China Town
- Upper and Lower Navy Hill
- Garapan Beach Road (up to Marianas Eye Institute)

GES reminded parents and guardians that a student's registration will not be entertained without all required documents. All documents must be updated!

For more information, call GES at 237-3341 or 664-3951. (PR)

### COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950

Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962

E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: [www.cpa.gov.mp](http://www.cpa.gov.mp)

### JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT #02-2017

Opening date: April 7, 2017

Closing date: April 28, 2017

Positions: (2) Ports Police/ARFF Trainee (Tinian)  
(2) AOA Controller/Ground Maintenance-I (Tinian)  
(1) Custodial-I (Tinian)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official sealed transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the CPA Administration Office, 2nd floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport of CPA Administration Office West Tinian International Airport. Failure to provide any of the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening, 10 year Criminal History Record Check and 49 CFR Part 1542.209(d) requirements. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents to the CPA Administration Office (Saipan) or at the West Tinian International Airport is no later than 4:30 p.m., Friday, April 28, 2017.

Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions shall be picked up along with the application form from Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except on holidays, at the CPA's Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Arrival Terminal or at the CPA Admin. Office at the West Tinian International Airport. For additional information, please contact the CPA Human Resources Office by email at [cpa.personnel@pticom.com](mailto:cpa.personnel@pticom.com) or by phone at (670) 237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO  
Executive Director

## PUBLIC NOTICE

April 6, 2017

### SAIPAN AIRPORT PARKING

This is to inform the general public that the Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) will be reinstating the charges for the parking booth located in the main parking lot at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. The parking booth will resume operations on May 1, 2017.

The system dispenses a plastic card upon entry and the card is returned when exiting. The system reads the elapsed time between entry and exit and indicates the appropriate charge. A fee of two dollars (\$2.00) will be charged for the first hour or fraction thereof and an additional two (\$2.00) dollars for each additional hour or fraction of an hour.

The total charge for each 24-hour period is fifteen (\$15.00) dollars. For each additional hour or fraction of an hour, an additional two (\$2.00) dollars will be charged.

A customer who loses a parking card will be charged fifteen (\$15.00) dollars for the lost card and will also be charged the appropriate parking fee for the time parked. The customer with the lost parking card may be required to park on the side to allow other customers to exit first and then give time for the parking booth attendant to check the system to resolve the matter.

A customer with a valid Handicap Placard will not be charged any parking fee as long as the person who was issued the placard is present in the vehicle. All customers with a valid Handicap Placard should contact the Accounting Office at (670) 237-6508.

All parking fees are non-refundable.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call CPA's main office at (670) 237-6500.

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO  
Executive Director

## FURUSATO

Japanese Sashimi Restaurant

### Daily Lunch Special

Monday to Saturday | 11:30 am to 2:00 pm

#### Sample Menu

(Wednesday)



Curry Rice Japanese Style/Half Shoyu Ramen or Salt Ramen

Menu changes everyday  
**\$9.00**



Local discount may apply.

Cold Soba or Udon  
(Zaru Soba or Udon)/Mini Fried Shrimp with Egg on the Rice  
(Mini Ebi Fry Don)/Miso Soup



# 1,500 take part in Hafa Adai 5K Run



PHOTOS BY KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

My Wave volunteers line up at the start of the Hafa Adai 5K Run last Saturday in front of Pacific Islands Club Saipan. Volunteers threw the first wash of colors as registered runners start their run.

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA  
kbautista1222@gmail.com  
REPORTER

The 4th Annual Hafa Adai 5K Run hosted by the Pacific Islands Club Saipan took place last Saturday with over 1,500 participants taking part in the colorful event.

The Hafa Adai 5K Run is a fundraiser organized by PIC to raise proceeds that would be donated to the Marianas Tourism Education Council.

MTEC will use the funds

raised for scholarships that will be offered to selected MY WAVE Club members from CNMI high schools and junior high schools.

According to the Hafa Adai 5K Run organizer Brad Ruszala, PIC Saipan Sports, Entertainment, and Activities director, the event drew over 1,500 participant this year. "We had more participants than last year and this is the biggest event to date."

Glenn Policare, Ruszala's

predecessor at PIC and the person who started the event, was pleased by how the numbers have grown in the last four years. "In the first year we only had 892 people join the run. In the second year, we broke 1,000. Last year we had 1,200 participants. This year it was overwhelming to see over 1500 participants out today," he said.

The sponsors of the Hafa Adai 5K Run included companies such as PIC, IT&E, Bridge Capital LLC, Pacific



Pacific Islands Club's Brad Ruszala, far left, Kanoa Resort's Glenn Policare, and the Governor Office's Vicky Benavente started the Hafa Adai 5K Run off with a few remarks last Saturday.

MHS' MY WAVE Club members volunteered for the first time since the club was only brought back this school year, according to its adviser Marizel Hiponia.

Prizes were provided for the schools with the most participants. For the elementary category, the prize for the most number of participants went to the Oleai Elementary School, Hopwood won in the middle school category, and Agape Christian School maintained their spot for the highest number of participants in the high

school category.

Let's Move Marianas provided the prizes for the schools. The prize provided for the winning schools was \$500 worth of All-Star Sporting Goods certificates, according to Ruszala.

Benavente, chairwoman of MTEC and Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' special assistant on Project Development, thanked PIC for its continuous support. "In behalf of the Marianas Tourism Education Council, we thank the PIC Hafa Adai 5K and all of its sponsors."



Registered runners take part in the Zumba session offered at the Hafa Adai 5K Run last Saturday that was hosted by the Pacific Islands Club Saipan.

Michelle I. Kukun  
and Hector N. Billimon  
P.O. Box 505021 CK  
Saipan, MP 96950  
Telephone No.: (670) 288-1743  
Pro se

## IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter )  
of the ) FCD-AD-  
Adoption of: ) CIVIL ACTION  
S. M. N. K. ) NO. 17-0132  
(06/21/2009) )  
Minor child ) NOTICE OF  
By: ) HEARING  
Michelle I. Kukun )  
and )  
Hector N. Billimon )  
Petitioner(s) )

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on 5th day of June, 2017 at 1:30 p.m. in Courtroom 205A before the Honorable Judge Govendo.

Dated this 27th day of March, 2017.

/s/ Patrick V. Diaz,  
Deputy Clerk of Court



First three registered runners to finish the Hafa Adai 5K Run pose for a picture last Saturday.



Registered runners finish the Hafa Adai 5K Run hosted by the Pacific Islands Club Saipan last Saturday.

## MP HOLDINGS LLC JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

### HOTEL MANAGER (SAIPAN COUNTRY CLUB)

MP Holdings LLC is soon to open the Saipan Country Club Resort Hotel, we are looking for an experienced hotel manager to oversee the daily operations of our hotel, as well as provide strategic direction. You will plan and supervise the activities of a new hotel located on Saipan Country Club Golf course, to ensure the smooth and profitable running of the business. You will be responsible for all aspects of the hotel operations.

#### RESPONSIBILITIES

- Supervise staff at all levels (receptionist, kitchen, staff, maids, office employees) and set clear objectives.
- Manage budgets/expense, analyze and interpret financial information and monitor sales and profits
- Develop and implement effective and efficient marketing strategy, in particular work with local travel agencies and online travel booking companies to maximize marketing awareness with key customer groups and penetration.
- Communicate with customers when appropriate to address any complaints, find solutions to problems or offer information.
- Deal with maintenance issues, and equipment and building and landscaping.
- Establish good working relationship with external parties, suppliers, travel agencies, event organizers.
- Inspect and ensure maintenance of all facilities and ensure compliance with all health and safety requirements and other local government compliance and licensing issues.

#### REQUIREMENTS

- Proven experience as a Hotel manager, or relevant role.
- Understanding of all hotel management best practices and relevant laws and guidelines.
- Excellent customer service skills.
- Demonstrate aptitude in decision making and problem solving.
- Reliable and with an ability to multi-task and work well under pressure.
- Degree or proven relevant experience in Hotel/Hospitality management or relevant field.

#### PREFERRED

- U.S. citizens and permanent residents
- Proficiency in Korean and/or Chinese

#### COMPENSATION

- Compensation: \$2,000 per month plus an incentive bonus, which will be negotiable based on qualifications and experience
- Benefits: Worker's compensation insurance

Email resume to gusnoble@hotmail.com

# Chamber, ITS present ‘Customer Service Excellence’

With the increase of business development on our island we are experiencing a competitive workforce and an even more demanding consumer base. There is no better time to build the customer service skills of

your employees.

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce and Island Training Solutions proudly present “Customer Service Excellence,” a training seminar that is geared toward motivating

your staff to impress every customer that walks in your door and to provide them with the ultimate experience. From front-line employees to accountants, this training is for everyone. It is essential that

your team is ready and willing to serve with excellence.

During this training seminar, participants will learn and practice suggestive selling techniques aimed toward improving your average sales

transaction. Offering your customers superior service builds client loyalty and encourages repeat business. Your employees can learn to elevate the level of your company’s customer service by learning concepts that can be implemented immediately for personal and business success, and which will deliver quality customer service crucial to sustaining and successfully growing your business.

This training seminar offers proven methods of providing superior customer service and will give your employees the skills needed to communicate professionalism, to gain respect, to enhance customer relationships, and to secure an overall competitive advantage through customer service excellence.

Participants will also hear firsthand success stories, have meaningful conversations, learn to ask key questions that engage, be able to model appropriate gestures, and provide a meaningful interaction with your customers. One attendee at a similar event stated “The workshop presenter is very entertaining. He adds humor to his teachings which plays a big part in capturing his au-

dience. He shared personal opinions which was helpful understanding his views on topics more. Overall a great experience and lesson!”

The “Customer Service Excellence” training will be conducted by one of Saipan’s leading motivational experts: Jim Arenovski of Island Training Solutions and Delta Management Corporation. Jim’s team at Saipan Shell stations was recently awarded top honors at IP&E’s 2017 Awards Banquet as ranking #1 in Customer Service!

Due to an overwhelming interest in this seminar, we are opening an afternoon session which will be from 1:30pm to 4:30pm on Thursday, April 20, 2017. This seminar will take place at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce Conference Room (Marianas Business Plaza, 3rd Floor, Suite #315). Registration fee is \$50 per person for Chamber members and \$55 per person for non-members. Light refreshments are included. Reservations and advance payment are required, as seating is limited. To register, please call 670-234-7150 or email us at coordinator@saipanchamber.com. (PR)

## KHS JROTC helps celebrate Santa Soledad Fiesta



Sabre Team, C/CPT Faisao, Kayleen, and C/CPT Shrestha, Charmel salute the Santa Soledad statue.



Kagman High School JROTC Ayuyu Battalion direct parking formation.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Last April 2, the community of Kagman celebrated the annual Santa Soledad Fiesta.

The Kagman High School JROTC Ayuyu Battalion cadets were a great help in making this event a successful one.

They acted as road guards and parking lot detail to help the community enter and leave safely to attend church service and activities for the fiesta.

A total of 19 KHS JROTC cadets participated overall. Cadets reported early at 7am to prepare the grounds for the many ongoers. The KHS Color Guard Sabre Team saluted the statue of Santa Soledad as they paraded around the street and church. In the end, the KHS JROTC cadets did an excellent job for the community fiesta. (PR)

## FBI offers training on threat posed by improvised explosives

**TAMUNING, GUAM**—On Friday, April 21, the Federal Bureau of Investigation is hosting a specialized training workshop focused on improvised explosives. The workshop will include a classroom presentation and explosive demonstration showcasing the explosive effects of conventional and improvised explosives. The dem-

onstrations will underscore the potential dangers of particular chemicals, both in the hands of terrorists as well as casual experimenters.

The “National Improvised Explosives Familiarization Chemical Industry Outreach Workshop” is intended to give people who work in the chemical industry along with local law enforcement, emergency re-

There is no cost to attend, but there is limited seating. Those interested in attending should submit their name, telephone number and email address, company/agency name and job title to john.kowatch@ic.fbi.gov. (PR)

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY  
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION**

**INVITATION TO BID  
ITB17-CHCC/ZIKA-002**

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: APRIL 19, 2017 TIME: 11:00A.M.  
BID OPENING DATE: APRIL 19, 2017 TIME: 11:30A.M.**

**“COMPUTERS & ACCESSORIES – ZIKA BIRTH DEFECTS SURVEILLANCE INTERVENTION & REFERRAL TO SERVICES PROGRAM, COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION”**

**COPIES OF THE ITB PACKET MAY BE PICKED-UP AT CHCC PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY DIVISION – MEDICAL SUPPLY STORAGE FACILITY LOWER BASE SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.**

**THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.**

**/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

**/S/ PRISCILLA M. IAKOPO  
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S**

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY  
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID  
ITB NO.: ITB17-SAR-124 (1-8)**

**SUBMISSION DATE: MAY 05, 2017 TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

**“PURCHASE OF GAS POWERED GROUNDS & BUILDING MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENTS FOR THE OFFICE OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE & REHABILITATION”**

**COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENSION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301 CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.**

**THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIA SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.**

**THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.**

**/S/ YVETTE R. SABLON  
SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE & REHABILITATION**

**/S/ HERMAN S. SABLON  
DIRECTOR OF P&S**

**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
Commonwealth Judiciary Administrative Office  
Guma' Hustisia, Iimwal Awewe, House of Justice  
P.O. Box 502165, Saipan MP 96950  
Telephone (670) 236-9715 Facsimile (670)236-9702**

**INVITATION TO BID  
ITB NO.: ITB17-JUDICIARY-04**

**SUBMISSION DATE: MAY 5, 2017 TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

**“PURCHASE OF A CLASS “G” VEHICLE (4X4 Pick-up Truck) FOR THE CNMI Judiciary, Judicial Administrative Office”**

**COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE CASHIER WINDOW, DOOR #5, LOCATED AT THE GUMA HUSTISIA / IIMWAL AWEEWE / HOUSE OF JUSTICE, SUSUPE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.**

**THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIA SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.**

**THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.**

**ALEXANDRO C. CASTRO  
JUDICIARY EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY**

**JOHN T. VILLAGOMEZ  
JUDICIARY PROCUREMENT OFFICER**

**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality**

**Division of Coastal Resources Management  
P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315  
www.crm.gov.mp**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**Payment Procedures for DCRM Permit Fees**

**CNMI Administrative Code §15-10-205(f) requires all Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) permit applications to be accompanied by a non-refundable DCRM permit application fee in accordance with the fee schedule set. All payments are to be remitted to the CNMI Treasurer.**

**Effective March 20, 2017, all DCRM permit applicants are required to obtain a payment voucher from DCRM before remitting payment for any and all application fees to the CNMI Treasurer. All payments made to the CNMI Treasurer must be accompanied by a DCRM payment voucher. DCRM will require all receipts of transactions to be accompanied by a payment voucher when submitting any and all applications.**

**/s/ Frances A. Castro  
Director  
Division of Coastal Resources Management**

**FURUSATO**  
Japanese Sashimi Restaurant

**Daily Lunch Special**

**Monday to Saturday | 11:30 am to 2:00 pm**

**Sample Menu (Friday)**

<b>\$9.00</b>	<b>Local discount may apply.</b>
<b>Menu changes everyday</b>	<b>Soy Sauce Ramen or Salt Ramen/Mini Pork Ginger on the Rice (Mini Shogayaki Don)</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>Cold Soba or Udon (Zaru Soba or Udon)/ Mini Pork and Egg on the Rice (Mini Tanin Don)/Miso Soup</b>

**FURUSATO RESTAURANT**

**HYATT REGENCY**

**FIESTA RESORT**

**FIESTA TREE AVE.**

**KINPACHI REST.**

**KOBAN**

**HANAMITSU**

**PASEO DE MARIANAS**

**SUBWAY**

**I LOVE SAIPAN**

**GARAPAN SQUARE**

**BEACH ROAD**

# Opinion

## Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXVII, Issue No. 72

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,  
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI  
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

**Jayvee L. Vallejera** EDITOR  
editor@saipantribune.com

**Mark Rabago** ASSOCIATE EDITOR  
mark\_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

## EDITORIAL

### Trump's immigration mess

**P**resident Trump is not about to take control of his vociferously delivered and wildly resonant campaign promise to relentlessly pursue violent illegal immigrants. And that borders on tragic.

He now is presiding over a messy, inconsistent follow-through that has snagged undocumented immigrants caught, say, driving without a license; made others afraid to report to the police violent assaults and other crimes against them; left children without a parent; and even detained for deportation, according to Human Rights Watch, those with no criminal history at all.

But this president doesn't do nuance.

Yes, yes, America is a nation of laws. It has also been a nation, despite some huge lapses over the centuries, that makes adjustments and recalibrates when those laws sometimes overreach, as long as there's no harm done to the greater society. Indeed, U.S. law has been applied, fairly or no, with discretion.

In 1996, Congress passed laws making even people who hold green cards and those with lawful status subject to deportation after a criminal conviction. The range of crimes is exceedingly broad, from shoplifting to intentional homicide.

The Obama administration called the hounds off of undocumented immigrants convicted of nonviolent crimes who had strong connections to the United States through family and stable employment, green cards or military service.

President Obama got nuance, mostly. After all, he still was derisively nicknamed Deporter in Chief. However, that administration understood that there was more harm than good to be done by needlessly separating families.

But here we are.

Alison Parker, the director of U.S. Program for Human Rights Watch, hears the horror stories. "The executive order and the memos on internal immigration enforcement seem as if the administration is interested in deporting people with no criminal history," she told the Editorial Board.

As a nation, yes, of laws, we should declare this overreach unacceptable.

And once in the deportation system, the process pretty much railroads people out of the country. "The 1996 laws exempt a lot of people with convictions from being able to talk about their family or military connections in front of a judge," Parker said. "The judge can only look at a checked box."

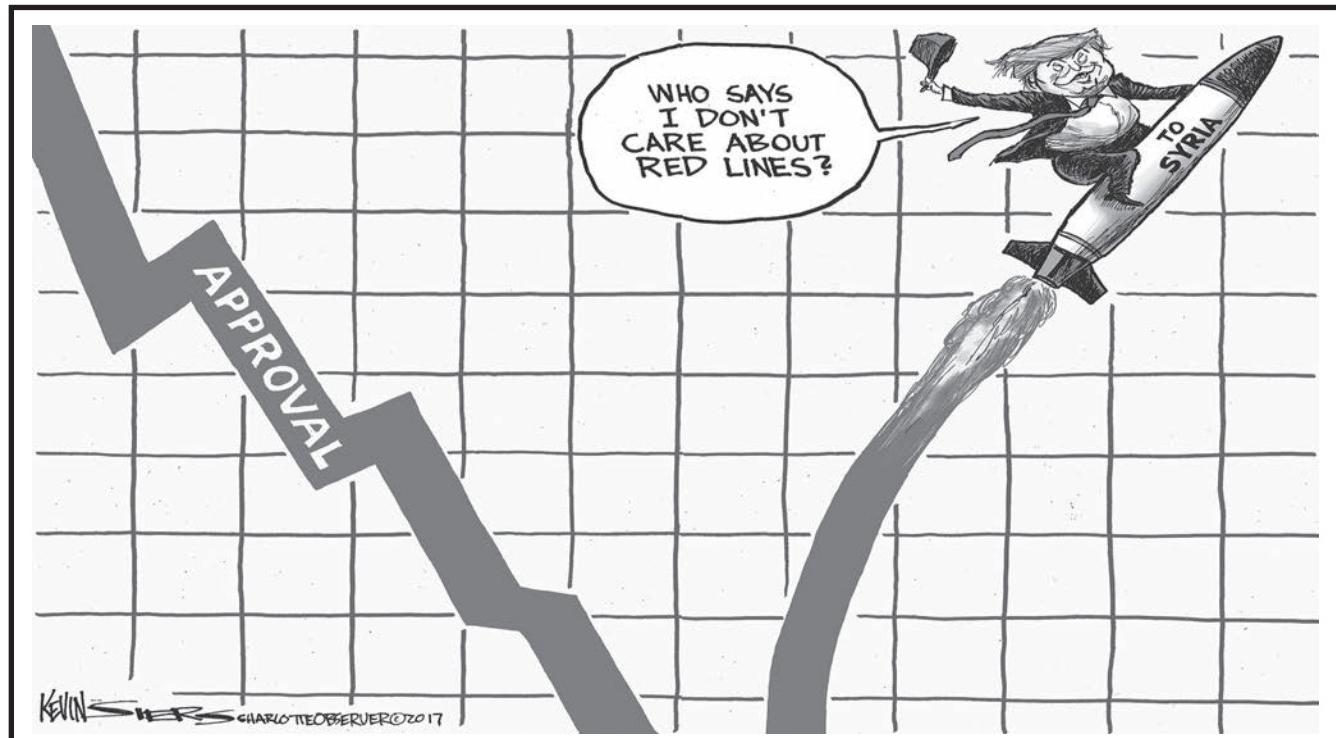
The box that says, in essence, "undocumented." End of conversation.

Congress must resolutely insert itself. After all, lawmakers' irresponsible inaction, their failure to have thoughtful debate, their tolerance of Trump's scapegoating, helped get us to this sorry juncture.

Provide oversight and accountability to ensure Immigration and Customs Enforcement and Border Patrol officers treat people fairly. HRW reports that too many Border Patrol agents are unwilling to listen to claims of asylum, claims they are obligated to take seriously.

There's no Democrat in the White House to fight against anymore. Instead, there's a demagogue, from the party of the majority, so lawmakers still have a fight on their hands — a righteous one.

©2017 Miami Herald



### Trump seems to grasp need to display toughness

**P**resident Trump did the right thing, the necessary thing, in striking Syria's Shayrat Air Base in response to the Assad regime's gruesome gas attack on civilians.

In so doing, the president sharply reversed his own past stance and positions his team took just days ago on Syria. Despite his stubborn refusal to criticize Russia's cyberwar on America, moreover, he may finally have grasped the need to display toughness to the Kremlin.

Call it the learning curve of Trump.

The big question now is whether the administration will use this military strike as more than a warning against the use of chemical weapons. The strike gives Trump new leverage to jolt a dying Syrian peace process back to life. But that would require him to play a global role he has previously disdained.

Back in September 2013, when President Barack Obama was agonizing over how to respond to a far larger Syrian gas attack, Donald Trump tweeted, "Do not attack Syria — if you do many very bad things will happen & from that fight the U.S. gets nothing."

Obama agreed. He failed to enforce his own red line, instead crafting a deal with Moscow that supposedly forced Bashar al-Assad to destroy his chemical arsenal. But, as I wrote then, the purpose of enforcing Obama's red line was not to overthrow Assad, something Washington couldn't achieve without boots on the ground. Rather, a strike could have been used to prod Syria and its backers into a serious peace process. That opportunity was lost.

Fast forward to now. Before the latest gas attack, Trump claimed his only interest in Syria was the defeat of the ISIS caliphate in the east of the country. On my trip to the region last month, Iraqis and Syrians bemoaned the apparent lack of any U.S. political strategy to keep jihadis from emerging again once ISIS was gone.

Only last week, top Trump officials stressed the lack of U.S. interest in removing Assad (which may have emboldened the dictator to think he was invincible).

Then, Assad's stupidity, and the president's visceral reaction to TV scenes of dying children, changed the equation. Whatever the rationale for Trump's sudden reversal, he was correct to do what he did.

That's because, in using sarin gas, the Syrian leader did far worse than violate the 1925 Geneva convention that bans the use of chemical weapons. (One should note that the U.S. attack occurred on April 6, the 100th anniversary of America's entry into WWI, in which 90,000 allied soldiers were felled by chlorine or mustard gas.) Assad also violated the 2013 deal brokered by Obama and Vladimir Putin that called for Assad to destroy all of his chemical weapons — obviously, he didn't.

Moreover, the Syrian leader flaunted U.N. Resolution 2235, which authorizes the use of force if Damascus violated that deal (although Russian veto power makes it impossible for the Security Council to act).

If Assad had been allowed to ignore all these red lines it would have given him carte blanche to continue gassing his own people. It would have demonstrated that the world, and America, had no will to stop the use of chemical weapons elsewhere.

In addition, it would have had two more dangerous conse-

quences. First, it would have demonstrated that American First.

Trump truly had no interest in global leadership on critical issues where U.S. leadership is essential. And second, it would have displayed a continuing Trump unwillingness to treat Putin with the toughness required to convince the Russian that Trump is not an easy mark.

Indeed, it is hard to imagine that the Russians were not complicit in the sarin attack. Russians were stationed at Shayrat Air Base — which is not large — and ought to have known that sarin was stashed there. Perhaps they turned a blind eye because they know that Assad's depleted army lacks the troops to defeat Syrian rebels in their remaining strongholds, so the Kremlin was willing to tolerate the use of gas.

But the repeated Russian denials that Assad was responsible continue the pattern of lies about their actions from the invasion of Ukraine to the hack of the U.S. election. The United States has clear evidence that the attack was launched from Shayrat — U.S. radar spotted the Syrian aircraft that dropped the gas bombs. This is why the American strike has broad backing from U.S. allies around the world.

So Trump had to make clear to the Kremlin that the United States would not tolerate this brazen breach of the 2013 pact. "Trump has to read the Russians the riot act," says Josh Landis, a noted Syria expert at the University of Oklahoma. "He has to get the Russians involved, to ask them what the hell happened."

But the bigger questions — that Secretary of State Rex Tillerson must explore on his scheduled visit to Moscow next week — is whether the Russians are willing to use this strike toward a productive purpose, despite their anti-U.S. bluster. So far Assad has been unwilling to contemplate discussing a political transition that would leave him in power but eventually lead to elections — and Russia had been unwilling to squeeze him.

The message that Russia needs to deliver to Assad, says Andrew Tabler, of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, is: "'Don't think you can gas your way out.' They must encourage Assad to go down the road to a true political process."

Yet Russia may have no interest in restraining Assad. Even without gas attacks, his barrel-bomb drops on civilians and the resulting refugee flows help Putin's plans to undermine the European Union.

So the test of Trump's learning curve will rest on whether he recognizes the need to hold firm with Putin — and whether he will invest in a diplomatic strategy for Syria that leverages his military action.

If he fails on either count, the broader impact of the military strike on Shayrat will be lost.



# Trump has created a new status for toughness that was needed

**A**t the risk of being accused of stating the obvious, the what-ifs of history become increasingly significant when considered in the context of globalization and power politics.

One doesn't have to go back to the end of World War I when the mistakes were made in the Treaty of Versailles that led to the rise and ultimate devastation just 20 years later of Nazi Germany to realize that if the allied parties had been more generous in their victory settlement, Hitler and the Third Reich and World War II might have been avoided.

For instance, what if Jimmy Carter had made it clear to Iranian leaders immediately following the invasion of the U.S. Embassy in Teheran that this nation would not tolerate the incursion and would sacrifice whatever it took, including the embassy personnel, to overturn what was clearly an act of war? What if he had warned unequivocally that they would either release the hostages and remove the invaders immediately or face retaliation that would leave them without their city and much of their nation, and mean it?

## LITERARY-NOOK

### For National Poetry Month

By JOEY 'PEPE BATBON' CONNOLY

SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

**D**ante Alighieri (1265-1321) was known as 'il Sommo Poeta' the Supreme Poet. His "Divine Comedy" is considered a masterpiece of world literature. The "Divine Comedy" is broken into three parts—Purgatory, Heaven, and Hell. Here is a modern trilogy of sonnets on it:

#### Dancing with Dante

PARADISO—oh the joys we encounter at last the promise of rewards for being so good forgetting eternally about our earthly past and enjoying angels in the neighborhood PURGATORIO—because you weren't baptized the gravity of your menial venial sins uncertain proposals in line in limbo are being analyzed as you wait behind the final eternal curtain INFERNO—oh wow oh well will it be holy hell freezing then burning turning on a roasting spit up to your neck in a lake of feces imagine the smell eternal thirst and that is much less than half of it WALTZING—continue to boogie dancing through life on earth 'sine die' serendipity sympathy and strife

#### Lollygagging in Limbo—A Split Decision

... well here's a story I just have to tell in answering a common question are you going to heaven or straight to hell let me make the following suggestion one could always answer avoiding precision to the prosecutors or even yourself just say well that's a split decision that for now I've put on a back shelf just say I know that's not very precise but its full of probabilities and difficult to decide whether to choose eternal fire and ice wade in welcome waters or have my skin fried reverse the question to those who are asking in the twilight of limbo keep right on basking

#### Heaven or Hell? One Way or the Other

does it always have to be so darned doggoned drastic when both have some qualities that are admirable pleasures and delights from silk steel song and plastic when you say OK what the hell to something desirable don't we all often experience a little of or a lot of both sliding back and forth between what's right and wrong avoiding a vow making merry now or taking an oath enjoying this hell on earth head in the clouds with song then we are again with or without sympathy for the devil doing a waltz a cha cha or twerking with a dirty dancer ups and down happy sad our world not quite on the level makes the heaven or hell question kind of hard to answer so be it then amiga compadre my sister and my brother we all are going to heaven or hell one way or the other

His failure to take prompt action and to permit the situation to linger on for almost a year while the rest of the world watched in amazement is clearly responsible for lowering the esteem for America as the global power and ultimately played a significant role in destabilizing the Middle East, a factor we have paid dearly for in men and material and money, an enormous amount of it. As a result, Carter lost his job.

What if Barak Obama had carried through instead of doing nothing after warning Syrian President Bashar al-Assad that the United States would not tolerate the use of poison gas in that nation's civil war. The red line he announced he had drawn was meaningless when Assad thumbed his nose at the threat, promising to do away with his chemical weapons and going back on the promise.

Can't Obama's failure and timidity then be attributed directly to having caused the latest Assad use of deadly chemicals on mainly women and children? Of course, it can. But then Obama's handling of the entire Syrian situation, along with his State Secretary, Hillary Clinton, was abysmal, leaving the Russians time to hone their support of Assad and bring their own airpower into play.

Now that message has been sent in a forceful yet measured way but three years later than it should have been. It is Donald Trump who now must find a way to settle an extremely thorny situation without triggering a much broader conflict. Trump's problems are clearly made worse by a more defined Russian presence and support for Assad that wasn't there when Obama drew his line. Investigations of Alleged links to the Russians within his administration not to mention Trump's seeming cordiality with Vladimir Putin also complicate things. State Secretary Rex Tillerson, is scheduled to visit Russia this week.

In fairness, this wasn't Trump's doing, although he has sent mixed messages on Syria as late as recent when Tillerson and

## Misteriun Numeru Tres

**G**i pa'gu na semanan kuaresma sige hu dibina i misteriun numeru tres. Era, gaige este na asuntu gi finu' i Saina gi siñku na man-apostoles 'nai ha sañgane si San Pedro na antes de u kate mina' tres biahe i gayu siempre niñega-gue.

'Nai man-mattu i sindalu para umakone' si Jesukristo ha ñega si San Pedro na ha tuñgu' i Saina.

Dispues de ma-entrega i Saina guatu gi as Ponsiu Pilatu, ha huñgog si San Pedro katen gayu. Ha hassu i finu' i Saina.

Petsonatmiente, hu tutuhun umakanteha pot miseriu numeru tres. Señat santu kilu'us: gineng I Tata, Lahiña yan Espiritu Santo. Tres man-maklaba gi kilu'us kontodu I Sainata. Dispues de mina' tres biahe ni hafaisen si Yuus Tata haf "na un'chogue-yu' tai-guine" umachigu'. Mahafut ya luma'la' ta'lú gi mina' tres dias.

In' hassu i tres rai ni bumisita i niñu giya Bilen? Dispues de madandan i mina' tres na atban guma' Yuus matutuhun i santa misa. I tautau malofan gi tres eskalera: mafañagu, luma'la' dispues matai.

Tatnai in' repara na 'an matai uno tinatitiye ni dos? Tres klasen Chamorro guaha: Mataao, Acha'ot yan Mamahlao. Gaigeyu' gi uttima na tropa!

**Dinaña' Isla:** I ma-abiban kuttura yan tradision tautau isla gi enteru iya Pasifiku mas lachok gi hatdin tanu' natibu.

I mas dañkulu na animu i para umatulaika pinegan nasion siha ni fumuñut modun linala' tautau isla siha.

Apmam na tiempu mapoñga i tautau isla nu ayu na hinassu i tisiaña luma'la' ni siha ha' namaisa. Lau hagas man-la'la' i antigua na mañainata amtau na hinanau sin estotbu ginen hiyuñg.

Na'magof na kinalamten 'nai adumididi' sige matulaika hagas mapoñga na hinassu na ti man-siña hit sin siha. No señor! Pot prueba, atan tatte finapos antigua na mañainata pot konfitmasion na hagas mansiña giya hita namaisa.

**Fina` Lanchu:** Hu soda` i tihu-hu pa'gu humalam ginen tumalaya. Hana'e-yu` kelaguen-hu tiau yan satmonetiyun. Hasañgane-yu` para bai susugu` gi lanchu gi lapupueñge.

Gi finatoghu halum, pa'gu hapula` i gapet gi adeñgña ginen munatunog tuba. Ha pastu i guaka yan sakatiye i chiba. Ha kamyu 'nos kuantos niyog ya hana` fañochu i babue yan manog. Ayu dispues 'nai mata'chuñg ham umatane'.

Hahatsa tininuña siha ginen i feggun yan saibog dagu. Hu ñigelu' ñaihon kau guaha palao'an umayudadaye. Lau guuya mismu chumogue todus de u hanau tumalaya.

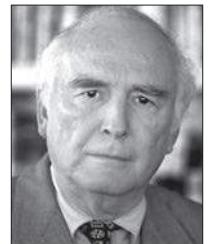
Mina' chettun-yu` nu guuya pot pas yan yan katma disposisioña siha diariu. Tatnai huli'e kinaulo'guan. Felis yan magof gi ha'aniña. Ha agradesi yan ha guatdia impottansian inafamauleg. Dispues, kabales yan mauleg fuminu` Chamorro.

Kulan mahalañg ñaihon 'nai ha sañgan i fiet na ayudun asaguña antes de u madispone. "Desde primet pusuelun kafe `an

By DAN K. THOMASSON

Tribune News Service

Dan K. Thomasson is an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service and a former vice president of Scripps Howard Newspapers. Readers may send him email at: thomassondan@aol.com.



others let it be known Assad's removal was no longer policy. The question is whether it is now. The missile strike was not aimed at the Assad administration's infrastructure.

But pressure from Trump's own party could change that. Republican Sen. John McCain, Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, a onetime presidential nominee and a war hero, has urged stronger action in the Syrian matter from the beginning.

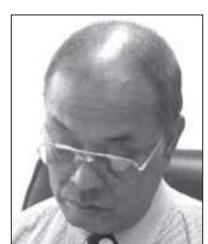
So, a U.S. president has met a "what-if" situation affirmatively and may have to go further. It's a challenge each commander in chief faces in a volatile world. Whether Trump will be prepared to take the next step if necessary depends on Assad's ultimate willingness to reassess his own position, which seems unlikely, Russia's response, and if the United Nations is finally prepared to prove it just isn't an impotent wonder.

Whatever. The fact is that by following through on what clearly is the right path has given Trump a new status for toughness his predecessor didn't exhibit. By quickly responding to the latest threat to human life, Trump's message hopefully has been widely received. The "what-if" factor in this case at least has been removed from the equation as it should have been a little over three years ago.

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



oga' an esta i oran sena ni unabes 'nai fatta nesessidat-hu'.

Sige mona, huli'e na hana` sañgiye-yu` teñguan-hu gi fina` balutan hagun choda ya ha pega gi karea-hu, silensi. Dispues sige ham umestoria pot fina` pos parentela yan tautau-ta siha.

Guiya muna` komprende-yu` haf kutturan natibu. "I tanu` magualu'e, i tasi peskan totche, dos pisu ni sumusteni i natibu." Ha afuetas-yu` umakanteha haf sustansian fino'ña ni sumen magahet.

Sige mona mumalañgu i amku` palu pot idatñia. Hu sen agradesi fino'ña siha yan ma'ug na akonsehu. Bes enkuando mafattu gi hinasog-hu i mauleg na sensian un` saina. Si Yuus Maase` tihu-hu!

**Neñkanu`:** Dos estudiun masoda` parehu haf tumutuhun seriosu siha na chetnot gi tautau.

Gaige i problema gi tres klasen na`yen neñkanu` gi todumalateye na totche. Ha inklusu corned beef, spam, satdinas, yan todumalateyan totche.

Mauleg in` adahe haf in` prepararaye familia desde amot oga' an yan talo'ane yan fina` sena. Mientras mas in` nasetbi fresku na totche mas mauleg para i hinemu` familia.

**Kuttura:** Hu e'ekuñgog untat Francisco B. Rabon ha esplika manu 'nai ha chule` kantan Chamorro esalau (chant). Ilegña na ha ekuñgog finu` Australasian ya ginen Taiwan yan Mongolia `nai ha lagnos kantan esalau gi Chamorro.

Inipus gueku i fino'ña pot mampus chagu` kutturan iya Taiwan yan Mongolia kontra Chamorro. Anog na ha fabrika ayu na modun kanta sin estabilisau na huñgan gai tinatte kumu patte gi estorian natibu.

Lau manu gi estorian Chamorro `nai gaige añklan kantan esalau (chant)? Manu gi entalu` Taiwan yan Mongolia `nai humuyuñg i Chamorro? Enfin, haye gi entre dos gai kuttura kantan esalau?

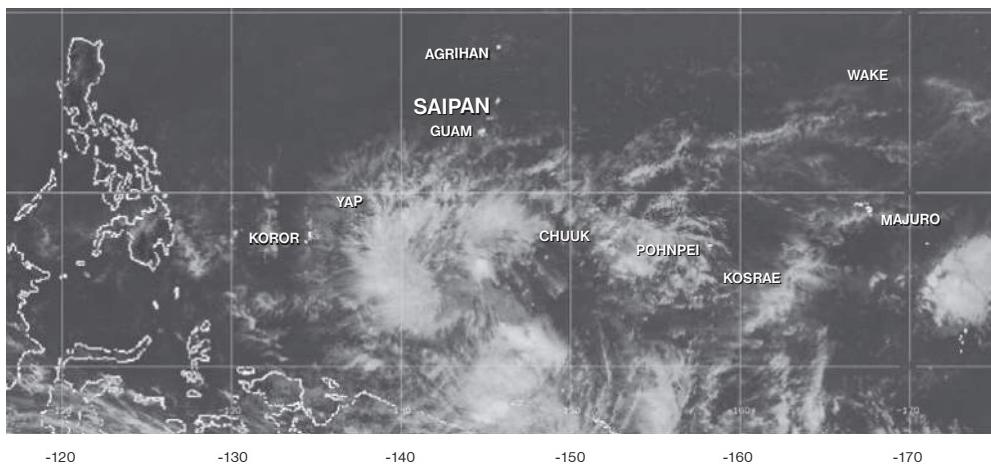
**Finu` Chamorro:** Kumu guaha dinidahu finu` Chamorro, usu pat palabra, sessu hu appela-yu` gi tiuhu as Tom Mendiola pot sumen mauleg gi liñguahita. Rason na hu konsusutta sa` guaha siha `nai huñgog palabru ni taya` gi fino`ta lau ma-atrebi siha gi usuña pot inosienteria. Maulegña mamaisen ya dinanche ke linainen pot atotgante gi lache na finabrikana palabru.

# The Weather

## 5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Isolated thunderstorms in the morning, then skies turning partly cloudy late.	Cloudy with occasional showers.	Partly cloudy skies early giving way to a few showers after midnight.	Partly cloudy skies early followed by mostly cloudy skies and a few showers later at night.	Windy. Showers in the morning. Isolated thunderstorms in the afternoon.
▲ 85° ▼ 77°	▲ 86° ▼ 77°	▲ 85° ▼ 77°	▲ 85° ▼ 77°	▲ 85° ▼ 77°

## YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



## PICTURE TIME: 7:35 AM, TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2017

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A tropical disturbance, currently southwest of Chuuk, is expected to move toward the west-northwest over the next couple of days. Little, if any, strengthening is expected until after it moves west of Yap and Koror. Most of the activity associated with this system will remain to the south of the Marianas, with Guam being on the northern edge of this activity. Scattered showers are possible late tonight into Thursday at Guam as the system progresses. Solutions with this system vary significantly with the different models, with the GFS being the most aggressive with development, though the latest track with all the models keep the bulk of the showers and thunderstorms south of Rota and only marginally close to Guam. Decided to cut back scattered showers until after midnight and only for Guam and Guam coastal waters. Day shift will need to monitor the situation to determine if the scattered showers may need to be dropped from the forecast this afternoon. Otherwise, dry conditions are expected over the Marianas for the remainder of the week into the weekend.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

MICRONESIA		▲	▼	°F
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	89		79 °F
Palau	Thunderstorms	84		76 °F
Yap	Scattered Thunderstorms	85		71 °F
Chuuk	Scattered Thunderstorms	86		80 °F
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	86		80 °F
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	85		78 °F
Majuro	Scattered Thunderstorms	84		79 °F

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY FEET		
2:31 AM	LOW TIDE	0.56
8:07 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.88
2:52 PM	LOW TIDE	0.16
9:00 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.85

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:04 AM	6:30 PM
Thursday	6:04 AM	6:31 PM
Friday	6:03 AM	6:31 PM
Saturday	6:02 AM	6:31 PM
Sunday	6:02 AM	6:31 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	6:41 AM	7:22 PM
Thursday	-	7:21 AM	8:11 PM
Friday	-	8:03 AM	8:59 PM
Saturday	-	8:45 AM	9:48 PM
Sunday	-	9:30 AM	10:37 PM

**NEWS DESK** For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235-3740. E-mail: [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com). Website: [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com).

**CUSTOMER SERVICE** For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

**SUBSCRIPTION** Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

**ADVERTISING** For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: [sales@saipantribune.com](mailto:sales@saipantribune.com)



## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.net](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.net)

## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 25, 2017

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
<b>SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)</b>				<b>GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN</b>			
UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily	UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota	UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6	UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily	UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily	UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily
<b>SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)</b>				<b>GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)</b>			
UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6
<b>ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)</b>				<b>ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN</b>			
UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6
<b>SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)</b>				<b>NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN</b>			
DL297	4:15pm	7:05pm	Daily	DL298	10:25am	2:55pm	Daily
<b>SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)</b>				<b>SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN</b>			
TW308	2:35am	6:25am	Daily	LJ651	8:25am	1:45pm	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1	ZE581	10:15am	3:35pm	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily	OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
LJ652	3:10pm	7:05pm	Daily	TW307	8:15pm	1:35am+1	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily	OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
ZE582	4:25pm	8:35pm	Daily	7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily
<b>SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)</b>				<b>BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN</b>			
7C3451	2:55am	6:10am	1, 7	7C3452	8:30pm	1:20am+1	6, 7
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6
7C3451	3:15am	6:30am	4, 5	7C3452	9:35pm	2:15am+1	3, 4
<b>SAIPAN-JEJU (CJU)</b>				<b>JEJU (CJU)-SAIPAN</b>			
7C3433	3:55am	7:30am	3, 7	7C3434	10:05pm	2:40am+1	2, 6
<b>SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)</b>				<b>SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN</b>			
3U8648	5:20am	8:00am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
<b>SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)</b>				<b>BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN</b>			
MU764	1:30am	6:50am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
<b>SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)</b>				<b>GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN</b>			
3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6	3U8645	7:50pm	2:40am+1	1, 5
<b>SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)</b>				<b>MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN</b>			
OZ626/701	2:10am	10:50am	1 via ICN	UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am</td						

# Business

## Wells claws back \$75M from top execs in sales scandal

**NEW YORK** (AP)—The problems at Wells Fargo and its overly aggressive sales culture date back at least 15 years, and management had little interest in dealing with the issue until it spiraled out of control resulting in millions of accounts being opened fraudulently, according to an investigation by the company's board of directors.

The bank's board also clawed back another \$75 million in pay from two former executives, CEO John Stumpf and community bank executive Carrie Tolstedt, saying both executives dragged their feet for years regarding problems at the second-largest U.S. bank. Both were ultimately unwilling to accept criticism that the bank's sales-focused business model was failing.

The 110-page report has been in the works since September, when Wells acknowledged that its employees opened up to 2 million checking and credit card accounts without customers' authorization. Trying to meet unnaturally high sales goals, Wells employees even created phony email addresses



In this May 6, 2012, file photo, a Wells Fargo sign is displayed at a branch in New York.

to sign customers up for online banking services.

"(Wells' management) creat-

ed pressure on employees to sell unwanted or unneeded products to customers and, in some cases, to open unauthorized accounts," the board said in its report.

Many current and former employees have talked of intense and constant pressure from managers to sell and open accounts, and some said it pushed them into unethical behavior. Monday's report backs up those employees' stories.

"It was common to blame employees who violated Wells Fargo's rules without analyzing what caused or motivated

them to do so ... (or determine) whether there were responsible individuals, who while they might have no directed the specific misconduct, contributed to the environment (that caused it)," the board said.

The report also says that problems in the bank's sales culture date back to at least 2002, far earlier than what the bank had previously said. And that Stumpf knew about sales problems at a branch in Colorado since at least that year.

Wells Fargo's CEO, Tim Sloan, said in a conference call

with reporters it was "frustrating" to hear that the bank may have had sales problems dating back so long ago.

The bank has already paid \$185 million in fines to federal and local authorities and settled a \$110 million class-action lawsuit. The scandal also resulted in the abrupt retirement last October of Stumpf, not long after he underwent blistering questioning from congressional panels. The bank remains under investigation in several states and by federal authorities. The board's report recommended

that Stumpf and Tolstedt have more of their compensation clawed back for their negligence and poor management. Tolstedt will lose \$47.3 million in stock options, on top of \$19 million the board had already clawed back. Stumpf will lose an additional \$28 million in compensation, on top of the \$41 million the board already clawed back. Along with the millions clawed back from other executives earlier this year, the roughly \$180 million in clawbacks are among the largest in U.S. corporate history.

## GOP owns health care dilemma now, and voter skepticism

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—Move over, "Obamacare." The health care debate has shifted to ideas from President Donald Trump and GOP lawmakers in Congress, and most people don't like what they see.

With Republicans in command, their health care proposals as currently formulated have generated far more concern than enthusiasm.

Even among rank-and-file Republicans, there's opposition to changes that would let insurers charge higher premiums to older adults, and many disapprove of cuts to Medicaid for low-income people, ac-

cording to a recent poll by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research. It also found more than half of Republicans at least somewhat worried about leaving more people uninsured, as the House plan is projected to do.

March polls by Fox News and Quinnipiac University showed overall margins of opposition to the GOP bill nearing or even exceeding those of the Obama-era Affordable Care Act, or ACA, at its lowest points—such as when the HealthCare.gov website went live in 2013 and promptly crashed.

"Republicans are taking own-

ership of the health care issue, and all the pleasure and pain of health reform," said Drew Altman, president of the nonpartisan Kaiser Family Foundation, which tracks the health care system. "There has been a shift in focus from the ACA itself to the Republican plans, and who might lose benefits as a result."

Highlighting the stakes, the uninsured rate among U.S. adults rose slightly in the first three months of this year, according to Monday's update of a major ongoing survey. The Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index found that 11.3 percent of adults were uninsured, an increase from

10.9 percent in the last two calendar quarters of 2016.

"Only time will tell" if the uptick means the U.S. is again losing ground on health insurance, said survey director Dan Witters.

"A lot of uncertainty has been introduced into the marketplace through efforts to repeal," Witters added. "That will scare people off who have real reason to believe that the ACA won't exist in a year. Plus premiums are now realizing a big jump for the first time in the ACA era, so some folks may be priced out of the market even with income-based subsidies."

### BUSINESS BRIEFS

#### World Bank: Philippine economy to grow close to 7 pct

**MANILA, Philippines** (AP)—The World Bank says the Philippines will remain a top performer in East Asia, with its economy forecast to grow close to 7 percent in the next three years. A bank report released Tuesday said the economy is projected to grow 6.9 percent this year and next, and 6.8 percent in 2019, with government's implementation of planned infrastructure projects to spur additional business activity, create more jobs and increase household consumption and poverty reduction. The report said the poverty rate fell to 21.6 percent in 2015 from 25.2 percent in 2012 thanks to higher employment, low inflation and improved incomes.

#### Toyota announces \$1.33B investment in Kentucky plant

**LOUISVILLE, Ky.** (AP)—Toyota said Monday it is investing \$1.33 billion to

retool its sprawling factory in Georgetown, Kentucky, where the company's flagship Camry sedans are built. No new factory jobs are being added, but Toyota says the upgrades amount to the biggest single investment ever at one of its existing plants in the United States. The retooling also will sustain the existing 8,200 jobs at Toyota's largest plant, where about one-fourth of all Toyota vehicles produced in North America are made, the automaker said. "This major overhaul will enable the plant to stay flexible and competitive, further cementing our presence in Kentucky," said Wil James, president of the plant, which also assembles the Avalon and the Lexus ES 350. The updates at the Kentucky plant are part of Toyota's plans to invest \$10 billion in the United States over the next five years, said CEO Jim Lentz of Toyota Motor North America, in a news release.

#### LEADING INDICATORS

**DOW**  
20,658.02  
+1.92  
0.01%

**S&P**  
2,357.16  
+1.62  
0.07%

**NASDAQ**  
5,880.93  
+3.11  
0.05%

In U.S. dollar terms

#### EXCHANGE RATES

Australian Dollar	<b>1.3325</b>
British Pound	<b>0.8052</b>
Canadian Dollar	<b>1.332</b>
Chinese Yuan	<b>6.9024</b>
Euro	<b>0.9442</b>

Hong Kong Dollar **7.7716**

Indian Rupee **64.585**

Japanese Yen **110.652**

Malaysian Ringgit **4.433**

New Zealand Dollar **1.4378**

Philippine Peso **49.65**

Russian Ruble **57.1024**

Singapore Dollar **1.4059**

South Korean Won **1146.4**

Swiss Franc **1.0089**

Taiwan Dollar **30.645**

Thailand Baht **34.6**



# Nation

## Teacher, boy die when husband opens fire in California class

**SAN BERNARDINO, Calif.** (AP)—A man walked into his estranged wife's elementary school classroom in San Bernardino and opened fire without saying a word, killing her and an 8-year-old student before shooting himself in a murder-suicide that spread panic across a city still recovering emotionally from a terror attack just 15 months ago.

A 9-year-old student also was critically wounded. He and the boy who died were behind their special-education teacher, Karen Elaine Smith, 53, the target of the man she had married months earlier, police said.

The shooting left hundreds of distraught parents waiting for hours to reunite with their children.

Staffers knew Cedric Anderson, who had been estranged from his wife for about a month, and he got into the school by saying he had to drop something off for Smith, officials said.

"No one has come forward to say they saw this coming," police Chief Jarrod Burguan told reporters.

Anderson had a history of weapons, domestic violence and possible drug charges that predated the short marriage,



School staff greets students at North Park Elementary School, in relief at Cajon High School, Monday, April 10, 2017, in San Bernardino, Calif., after a deadly shooting occurred at the elementary school. AP

authorities said.

He frequently wrote social media posts about his wife over the past month. On what appeared to be his Facebook page, Anderson said he "loved being married to

Karen Smith-Anderson!" and posted a photo of the two of them on March 4 in what he described as a date night. He posted several photos of his wedding to Smith early this year and their honeymoon in

Sedona, Arizona.

Smith's mother, Irma Sykes, said her daughter had been friends with Anderson for about four years before they got married.

"She thought she had a

wonderful husband, but she found out he was not wonderful at all," Sykes told the Los Angeles Times. "He had other motives," Sykes said. "She left him and that's where the trouble began. She broke up with him and he came out with a different personality. She decided she needed to leave him." She did not elaborate further.

Sykes said her daughter was a dedicated teacher who took up the profession about 10 years ago after her four children grew up.

Fifteen students ranging from first to fourth grade were in the special-education classroom at North Park Elementary School, along with

two adult aides and Smith, when Anderson emptied a large-caliber revolver and reloaded. Then, he turned the gun on himself.

Marissa Perez, age 9, was in the classroom hiding under a table.

"A boy just walked in with a gun," she said shortly after she and her mother, Elizabeth Barajas, were reunited. The two cried, hugged and trembled. Barajas held the sweater her daughter had been wearing. It was speckled with blood.

"He just shot everywhere," Marissa said. "My friend and my teacher. They got shot."

Jonathan Martinez, the 8-year-old, was airlifted to a hospital and died soon after arriving, Burguan said. The 9-year-old boy, whose name was not released, has been stabilized at a hospital.

The 600 other students at the school were bused to safety at California State University's San Bernardino campus, several miles away, after many walked off campus hand-in-hand, escorted by police.

Panicked parents had to wait hours before being reunited with them at a nearby high school.

Holly Penalber, whose 9-year-old son and 7-year-old daughter attend the school, called it "every parent's worst nightmare." She said the long wait was "frustrating but also understandable."

## Video of passenger getting dragged off flight sparks uproar

**CHICAGO** (AP)—Video of police officers dragging a passenger from an overbooked United Airlines flight sparked an uproar Monday on social media, but United's CEO defended his employees, saying they followed proper procedures and had no choice but to call authorities and remove the man.

As the flight waited to depart from Chicago's O'Hare Airport, officers could be seen grabbing the screaming man from a window seat, pulling him across the armrest and dragging him down the aisle by his arms. United was trying to make room for four employees of a partner airline on the Sunday evening flight to Louisville, Kentucky.

Other passengers on Sunday night's United Express Flight 3411 are heard saying, "Please, my God," "What are you doing?" "This is wrong," "Look at what you did to him" and "Busted his lip."

Passenger Audra D. Bridges posted the video on Facebook. Her husband, Tyler Bridges, said United offered \$400 and then \$800 vouchers and a hotel stay for volunteers to give up their seats. When no one volunteered, a United man-

ager came on the plane and announced that passengers would be chosen at random.

"We almost felt like we were being taken hostage," Tyler Bridges said. "We were stuck there. You can't do anything as a traveler. You're relying on the airline."

Oscar Munoz, CEO of United Airlines' parent company, apologized first in a written statement and then in a letter to employees Monday evening.

Munoz said he was "upset to see and hear about what happened" at O'Hare. He added, however, that the man dragged off the plane had ignored requests by crew members to leave and became "disruptive and belligerent," making it necessary to call airport police.

"Our employees followed established procedures for dealing with situations like this," Munoz told employees. "While I deeply regret this situation arose, I also emphatically stand behind all of you, and I want to commend you for continuing to go above and beyond to ensure we fly right."

Munoz said that the airline might learn from the experience, and it was continuing to look into the incident.

up to \$1,000 in compensation.

The passenger who refused to leave told the manager that he was a doctor who needed to see patients in the morning, Tyler Bridges said.

"He was kind of saying that he was being singled out because he's a Chinese man" when speaking to the manager, who was African-American, Bridges said.

## Judge again finds discrimination in Texas' voter ID law

**AUSTIN, Texas** (AP)—A judge Monday again ruled that Republican lawmakers deliberately designed a strict voter ID law to disadvantage minorities and effectively dampen their growing electoral power.

It amounted to the second finding of intentional discrimination in Texas election laws in as many months—a separate court in March ruled that Republicans racially gerrymandered several congressional districts when drawing voting maps in 2011, the same year the voter ID rules were passed.

Neither ruling has any immediate impact. But the decisions are significant because it raises the possibility of

Texas being stripped of the right to unilaterally change its election laws without federal approval. Forcing Texas to once again seek federal permission—known as "pre-clearance"—has been a goal of Democrats and minority rights groups since the U.S. Supreme Court struck down the requirement in 2013.

The latest voter ID ruling by U.S. District Judge Nelva Gonzales Ramos of Corpus Christi comes more than two years after she likened the ballot-box rules in Texas, known as SB 14, to a "poll tax" meant to suppress minority voters. On Monday, she reaffirmed that conclusion after an appeals court

asked her to go back and re-examine her findings.

The Texas law requires voters to show one of seven forms of identification at the ballot box. That list includes concealed handgun licensees—but not college student IDs—and Texas was forced under court order last year to weaken the law for the November elections.

"Proponents touted SB 14 as a remedy for voter fraud, consistent with efforts of other states. As previously demonstrated, the evidence shows a tenuous relationship between those rationales and the actual terms of the bill," Gonzales Ramos wrote.

The state could once again

appeal, which is what one of the top deputies of Republican Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton appeared to suggest would happen while testifying to lawmakers just as the ruling came down. Brantley Starr, a deputy first assistant attorney general, acknowledged that Texas could be dragged back under preclearance but noted there was little precedent.

"It's possible. It's our belief that you'd have to have multiple instances of discriminatory purpose," he said.

Later Monday, Paxton spokesman Marc Rylander remarked, "We're disappointed and will seek review of this ruling at the appropriate time."

# Asia

## N. Korea calls US aircraft carrier dispatch outrageous

**PYONGYANG, North Korea** (AP)—North Korea is vowing tough counteraction to any military moves that might follow the U.S. move to send the USS *Carl Vinson* aircraft carrier and its battle group to waters off the Korean Peninsula.

The statement from Pyongyang comes as tensions on the divided peninsula are high because of U.S.-South Korea wargames now underway and recent ballistic missile launches by the North. Pyongyang sees the annual maneuvers as a dress rehearsal for invasion, while the North's missile launches violate U.N. resolutions.

"We will hold the U.S. wholly accountable for the catastrophic consequences to be entailed by its outrageous actions," a spokesman for its Foreign Ministry was quoted as saying by the state-run Korean Central News Agency late Monday.

The statement comes just after U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said U.S. missile strikes against a Syrian air base in retaliation for a chemical weapon attack carry a message for any nation op-



In this March 15, 2017 file photo, U.S. Navy aircraft carrier, the USS *Carl Vinson* approaches to participate in the annual joint military exercise called Foal Eagle between South Korea and the United States, at Busan port in Busan, South Korea. AP

erating outside of international norms.

He didn't specify North Korea, but the context was clear enough.

"If you violate international agreements, if you fail to live up to commitments, if you become a threat to others, at some point a response is likely

to be undertaken," Tillerson told ABC's "This Week."

The North has long claimed the U.S. is preparing some kind of assault against it and justifies its nuclear weapons as defensive in nature.

"This goes to prove that the U.S. reckless moves for invading the DPRK have reached a

serious phase of its scenario," the North's statement said.

"If the U.S. dares opt for a military action, crying out for 'preemptive attack' and 'removal of the headquarters,' the DPRK is ready to react to any mode of war desired by the U.S."

North Korea's formal name

## Executions in China said to outpace world despite decline

**BEIJING** (AP)—China's use of the death penalty remains shrouded in secrecy and still outpaces the rest of the world combined, even after the nation's execution rate fell sharply over the past decade, human rights activists said Tuesday.

Amnesty International reported 1,032 state-sponsored executions worldwide in 2016, excluding China, where the true number is unknown because the government considers it a state secret. The group said it believes China executed thousands, but it didn't offer a more precise estimate due to a lack of accurate information.

The human rights group Dui Hua estimates about 2,000 executions took place in China last year, down from a 6,500 a decade ago, said the group's executive director, John Kamm. The tally was based on research into lower-level court cases and contacts with government officials and Chinese and Western legal scholars, Kamm said.

Amnesty said its figure for worldwide executions excluding China represents a 37 percent drop from 2015. The United States recorded 20 executions, its fewest in 25 years, in part because of court rulings and shortages of chemicals used in lethal injections.

Yet as other countries shift away from capital punishment, China increasingly is seen as an outlier, said Amnesty International East Asia Director Nicholas Bequelin.

Government officials did not immediately comment on Amnesty's report. But China's chief justice, Zhou Qiang, told the national legislature last month that over the past decade executions were limited to "an extremely small number of criminals for extremely serious offenses."

China has faced longstanding pressure from the international community to curb its use of the death penalty, which reached a frenzy in 1983 with 24,000 executions after provincial courts were given powers to mete out capital punishment, according to Dui Hua.

The nation also has faced criticism for harvesting organs from executed inmates, including for sale to patients from overseas. China banned the practice in 2015 but Bequelin said it's impossible to know whether organ harvesting for profit has ceased because the legal system operates within a "black box" with little transparency.

"China is trying to have it both ways, both getting credit and allaying international pres-

sure over the death penalty in the country, while maintaining and enforcing an elaborate system of secrecy," Bequelin said.

Oversight of death sentence cases was returned to China's highest court, the Supreme People's Court, in 2007. Since that time, the government has narrowed which crimes can bring capital punishment but still lists more than three dozen eligible offenses, including treason, separatism, spying, arson, murder, rape, robbery and human trafficking.

Chinese legal scholar Hong Daode contended that 90 percent of executions last year were for homicide cases.

"There has been a long tradition in China that the one that has taken people's lives should pay with his own life," said Hong, a professor of criminal law at China University of Political Science and Law.

However, Susan Trevaskes of Australia's Griffith University, concluded in a recent study that close to half of all death sentences were handed down for drug crimes.

Efforts to reform how such cases are handled by the courts have been frustrated by the government's attitude that all drug crimes constitute a threat to society, according to Trevaskes, author of the 2012 book

"The Death Penalty in Contemporary China."

That's despite the fact that many perpetrators are low-level "mules"—typically poor, rural residents hired by traffickers to transport their illicit contraband but who reap minimal profit from the work, Trevaskes said.

Whatever the breakdown, Dui Hua's Kamm said the number of executions in China remains a national embarrassment.

"Pushing for the Chinese government to release the number is perhaps the most effective way to drive it down," he said.

Hong and others faulted Amnesty for claiming in its Tuesday report that verdicts on only 85 executions between 2014 and 2016 showed up on a supreme court website, out of at least 931 that the human rights group tallied through public news reports.

Among the cases omitted were the executions of foreigners for drug crimes and people accused of terrorism in China's in Xinjiang Uyghur autonomous region, the group said.

But Hong said the website was never intended to provide a comprehensive database of executions and likely only includes verdicts intended to influence society or guide future trials.

## China says navy rescues ship from pirates, omits Indian role

**BEIJING** (AP)—China's navy says its forces rescued a freighter from attack by pirates in the Gulf of Aden over the weekend. Missing from the report was any mention of the participation of the Indian navy, which says it dispatched four ships and a helicopter to provide cover for the action.

The omission was likely no accident. Deep distrust persists between the two nuclear-armed Asian giants,

and in recent days, China has angrily denounced New Delhi over a visit by exiled Tibetan spiritual leader the Dalai Lama to an Indian border area that China claims as its own territory.

Asked about that lack of mention of India's part in the operation, Chinese foreign ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying referred questions to the defense ministry, where no spokesman was immediately available for comment.

"We believe the aforementioned operation demonstrated the effectiveness of China's naval forces in the field of fighting against pirates, as well as China's image as a responsible major country in safeguarding regional peace and stability," Hua told reporters at a daily news briefing on Monday.

"We are always positive toward international counter-piracy operations," she added.

No casualties or damage were reported in the incident,

which unfolded between Saturday night and early Sunday morning.

The Chinese navy's statement said a distress signal was received late Saturday from the captain of the Tuvalu-flagged OS35 saying it was under attack by an unknown number of pirates aboard a single boat. Steaming to the area, the missile frigate Yulin then circled the ship while its helicopter hovered above.

The statement said 16 members of the Chinese special forces were lowered onto the ship by helicopter at dawn Sunday and released the 19 crew members from the strong room where they had taken shelter, while also searching the ship to ensure there were no further threats. The statement made no mention of any arrests or other contact with the pirates.

India's account differed slightly but did mention China's participation.

A statement from the Indian defense ministry said the Indian navy ships Mumbai, Tarkash, Trishul and Aditya had been sailing toward the Mediterranean Sea when they responded to the distress call and "rapidly closed the merchant vessel" by early Sunday.

"After an Indian navy helicopter flew over on Sunday morning, crew members emerged and 'ascertained that the pirates had fled the ship at night.'

# World

## Official: Russia knew Syrian chemical attack was coming

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—The United States has concluded Russia knew in advance of Syria's chemical weapons attack last week, a senior U.S. official said Monday.

The official said a drone operated by Russians was flying over a hospital as victims of the attack were rushing to get treatment. Hours after the drone left, a Russian-made fighter jet bombed the hospital in what American officials believe was an attempt to cover up the usage of chemical weapons.

The senior official said the U.S. has no proof of Russian involvement in the actual chemical attack in northern Syria.

But the official said the presence of the surveillance drone over the hospital couldn't have been a coincidence, and that Russia must have known the chemical weapons attack was coming and that victims were seeking treatment.

The official, who wasn't authorized to speak publicly on intelligence matters and demanded anonymity, didn't give precise timing for when the drone was in the area, where more than 80 people were killed. The official also didn't provide details for the military and intelligence information that form the basis of what the Pentagon now believes.

Another U.S. official cautioned that no final American determination has been made



AP  
President Vladimir Putin's spokesman Dmitry Peskov, center, speaks with Ian Phillips, vice president International News Associated Press, at a meeting with The Associated Press in Moscow, Russia, Thursday, April 6, 2017.

that Russia knew ahead of time that chemical weapons would be used. That official wasn't authorized to speak about internal administration deliberations and spoke on condition of anonymity.

The allegation of Russian foreknowledge is grave, even by the standards of the currently dismal U.S.-Russian relations.

Although Russia has steadfastly supported Syrian President Bashar Assad's government, and they've coordinated military attacks together, Washington has never previ-

ously accused Moscow of complicity in any attack that involved the gassing of innocent civilians, including children. The former Cold War foes even worked together in 2013 to remove and destroy more than 1,300 tons of Syrian chemical weapons and agents.

Until Monday, U.S. officials had said they weren't sure whether Russia or Syria operated the drone. The official said the U.S. is now convinced Russia controlled the drone. The official said it still isn't clear who was flying the jet that bombed the hospital,

because the Syrians also fly Russian-made aircraft.

U.S. officials previously have said Russians routinely work with Syrians at the Shayrat air base where the attack is supposed to have originated. U.S. officials say the chemical weapons were stored there and that those elements add to the conclusion that Russia was complicit in the attack.

Last Thursday 59 Tomahawk missiles were fired on the government-controlled base in the United States' first direct military action against Assad's forces.

### Attacks test Egypt's president who orders state of emergency

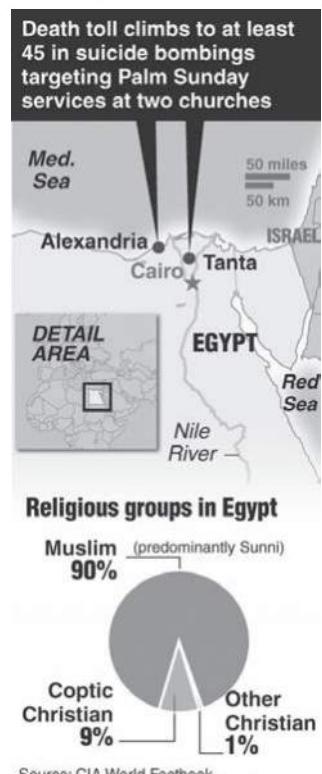
tarian tensions and embarrass el-Sissi.

The Palm Sunday bombings struck churches in the port city of Alexandria, the historic seat of Christendom in Egypt, and the city of Tanta. The head of the Coptic church, Pope Tawadros II, had been inside St. Mark's Cathedral in Alexandria when the bomber struck there but was unhurt.

"We are seeing simultaneous attacks, based on strong information, targeting big churches across the country. This is a very dangerous development," said Mina Thabet, a rights researcher focusing on minorities.

"Christians are in a state of shock," he added. "Attacks are recurrent, victims are falling in bigger numbers, and people live in fear and these groups are growing in power, number, and resources."

There were scenes of grief and anguish Monday as mourners wailed during funerals at the sprawling St. Mina



percent of the population, by moving its activities from the Sinai to other parts of Egypt. Its increasingly sophisticated tactics are likely to fuel sec-

The U.S. has been focusing its military action in Syria on defeating the Islamic State group.

On Monday, Col. John J. Thomas, a U.S. military

### WORLD BRIEFS

#### Venezuela protesters target Maduro, vow to keep up pressure

**CARACAS, Venezuela** (AP)—Thousands of protesters demanding new elections faced off with security forces who launched tear gas and stood shoulder-to-shoulder blocking roadways in the Venezuelan capital Monday. Demonstrators covered their faces to protect against the plumes of tear gas that wafted through the streets of Caracas. A few threw rocks as they tried to make their way downtown waving Venezuelan flags and carrying signs decrying President Nicolas Maduro. "We need to get out on the street and fight, to tell these people we don't want them," said Maria Guedez, a 67-year-old homemaker carrying a sign that read, "No more dictatorship." Now in their second week, the protests initially erupted April 1 after the Supreme Court stripped congress of its last vestiges of power, a decision it later reversed. Demonstrators and opposition leaders are angered at what they see as a government that no longer respects democratic institutions and is sliding toward authoritarianism.

#### Ex-Mexican governor's long flight from justice ends

**MEXICO CITY** (AP)—The arrest of an ex-governor of the Mexican border state of Tamaulipas caps a five-year, seemingly desultory search for the ruling-party politician accused of organized crime and money laundering. It may have been one of the least serious searches in history. Analysts say the government was loath to arrest one of its own, a man who both reflected badly on the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party, or PRI, and who may have held sensitive information on other corrupt officials. U.S. prosecutors have publicly alleged since 2012 that Tomas Yarrington accepted millions of dollars in drug cartel bribes and invested it in Texas real estate. But Mexico didn't offer a reward for his capture until last November. The current Tamaulipas governor, Francisco Garcia Cabeza de Vaca, said that Yarrington—who left office in 2005, and has faced charges since 2012—still had a government-provided bodyguard assigned to him until late last year. The farcical nature of a policeman assigned to guard him while he was on the lam ended only because Garcia Cabeza de Vaca won the 2016 elections and belongs to the opposition National Action Party, or PAN, the party said in a statement Monday.

spokesman, said the U.S. has taken extra defensive precautions in Syria in case of possible retaliation against American forces for the cruise missile attack.

Thomas told reporters at the Pentagon that the increased emphasis on defensive measures to protect U.S. troops on the ground in Syria led to a slight and temporary decline in offensive U.S. airstrikes against IS in Syria.

There has been no Syrian retaliation so far for the cruise missile attack, which destroyed or rendered inoperable more than 20 Syria air force planes, he said.

Thomas said the U.S. intends to return to full offensive air operations against IS as soon as possible.

# Focus

# OUTAGES INCREASE

## as Puerto Rico company crumbles amid crisis

By DANICA COTO  
Associated Press



AP  
In this Sept. 22, 2016, file photo, motorists illuminate a storefront with their headlights as they drive in to buy bread after a massive blackout, in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

**S**AN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)—Spoiled food. Damaged appliances. Shuttered businesses.

A recent increase in power outages is taking a heavy toll on Puerto Rico as the U.S. territory's heavily indebted public power company struggles to modernize decades-old equipment that is crumbling amid a deep economic crisis.

The frequent loss of power, coupled with rising power bills, is spooking potential investors. It has frustrated business owners who complain of lost revenue and forced homeowners to buy new appliances amid unexpected surges.

"It's never been worse," Mariela Aguirre, a 49-year-old sales trainer, said of the weekly outages in her neighborhood tucked in an upscale suburb near the capital. "This is turning into a Third World country."

The cycle of homes and businesses being plunged into darkness only to be jolted awake by appliances that beep, whir and hum back to life has become common across the island for tens of thousands of Puerto Ricans such as Aguirre who cannot afford generators to offset the costly interruptions.

Last year, the island of 3.4 million people reported more than 54,000 power failures, a 24 percent increase compared with 2014. Outages in Puerto Rico overall are up to five times higher than those experienced by customers in the U.S. mainland, according to a report published in November by independent, U.S.-based experts at the request of a local commission charged with improving

the power company.

The scathing analysis of more than 200 pages says the power company faces an emergency that must be addressed immediately, warning that its generation and transmission infrastructure is "literally falling apart."

"(The company) appears to be running on fumes, and in our opinion desperately requires an infusion of capital—monetary, human, and intellectual—to restore a functional utility," the experts wrote.

But Puerto Rico's government cannot provide any kind of cash infusion. It faces major budget cuts in the upcoming months as it struggles to find revenue and restructure some \$70 billion in public debt during a decade-long recession. The Electric Power Authority holds roughly \$9 billion of that debt, and has reached a tentative deal reached with bondholders after nearly three years' worth of negotiations.

The power company hasn't found new sources of revenue given that Puerto Rico has no access to the capital markets. Meanwhile, outages continue to vex its more than 1.5 million customers.

"You hear all the pings, and you're like, 'Oh, God, everything's going to break down on me,'" Elizabeth Laide, a 50-year-old swimming instructor, said of her appliances.

She lives near the capital of San Juan and has power outages twice a week lasting anywhere from six to 12 hours. Her washing machine already stopped working, and she keeps her grocery lists short because she doesn't want food to spoil.

Laide also has stopped calling the power company.

"You get tired of waiting on the line," she said. "It's something you can't fight."

Edgardo Rivera, the new director of the power company's transmission and distribution system, blamed the majority of outages on long overdue improvements that require crews to disconnect power for several hours.

"Of course we can do better, that's our goal," he said, adding he expects the improvements will reduce outages.

But many Puerto Ricans remain wary, especially after the entire island

lost power last September in a three-day blackout affecting 1.5 million utility customers.

A fire at a main power plant caused the blackout, but most outages are blamed on deferred maintenance, bad weather, overgrown trees, crumbling infrastructure and lack of skilled workers, according to the report by independent U.S. experts. The study noted that the power company's workforce is now 22 percent slimmer than it was in 2014. Outages also have become longer, now lasting more than two hours on average.



In this April, 5, 2017 photo, Mirna Lugo plays a game on her tablet to pass the time after dragging her mattress into the coolest part of her house because Puerto Rico's public power company cut the power in her neighborhood so crews could trim tree branches in Bayamon, Puerto Rico.

"(The company) is barely able to provide electric service with its present fleet and dispatches its units with software that was developed in 1985," the experts said in their report. "Its approaches to problem-solving are often improvised, with results that are disastrous as often as they are admirable."

The company also has been plagued by allegations of corruption and mismanagement and is now struggling with a fresh round of negotiations with bondholders.

More islanders demand that the company be privatized in hopes service will improve, but Puerto Rico economist Jose Joaquin Villamil considers that unrealistic.

"That requires a large investment, and it's not very likely that a private firm will find this a very attractive proposition," he said.

Amid the outages, Puerto Ricans try to find humor in their situation. A popular meme during Puerto Rico's recent undefeated run to the World Baseball Classic finals reads, "I ask that the power company give us electricity from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.," referring to the game's scheduled time.

Islanders also have become used to the boom of exploding transformers followed by a string of expletives from those living or working nearby.

Jose Garriga, who owns a large Puerto Rico refrigeration and ventilation company, said the power at his headquarters near San Juan and other nearby properties goes out at least once a week.

"Sometimes you'll have two transformers explode, one after another," he said. "Everyone in Puerto Rico needs a generator. The system is broken."

# Good Housekeeping

## When life gives you lemons, bake a cake

By SUSAN BANKS  
PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE

Lush, lovely, fragrant yellow lemons can be used for many things, as ingredients in both sweet and savory dishes and dressings, in beverages, or for a snappy puckish garnish. The juice, the pulp and also the zest can be utilized in any number of ways. Is there anything this little vitamin C-packed orb can't do? And don't forget, when you are finished with the fruit, drop the remnants down the garbage disposal and run it to freshen up the kitchen.

Pick lemons that are bright yellow, firm and heavy for their size. Fresh lemons will last two to four weeks on the counter and one to two months in the refrigerator, says [www.eatbydate.com](http://www.eatbydate.com), making them easy keepers.

California and Florida are the leading producers in the country, according to the Food Network. While there are many cultivated varieties of lemons in commerce, they are usually generically sold. In other words, a lemon is a lemon is a lemon. Unless it's not.

You may also run across Meyer lemons, which are a cross between a lemon and an orange. This variety has become trendy once again as some celebrity chefs, such as Martha Stewart, have embraced them. Meyer lemons are smaller, rounder and sweeter than regular lemons, and usually show up in stores from December through May.

Whatever type of lemon you find, there is no dearth of ways to make use of them. So grab a bag on your next shopping trip.

### DREAMY LEMON CHEESECAKE

PG tested

This cake is dense and the crust is very sweet, so a little bit goes a long way. Topped with lemon curd, whipped cream and lemon garnish, it makes a heck of a statement on the holiday table. If you'd like to cut the sweetness, substitute graham crackers for the crushed lemon-filled sandwich cookies. Baking a cheesecake in a water bath cuts down on the cracks on the surface, but make sure you are vigilant about wrapping the pan to keep the water out.

2 1/2 cups crushed cream-filled lemon sandwich cookies (about 25 cookies)  
2 1/2 tablespoons salted butter, melted

Remove cheesecake carefully from pan and water bath and place on a wire rack. Cool completely, about 2 hours. Cover with plastic wrap or foil, making sure it doesn't



TNS Lemon Poppy Seed Quick Bread.

5 (8-ounce) packages cream cheese, softened

1 1/2 cups sugar

2 tablespoons flour

4 large eggs

2 large egg yolks

1 tablespoon lemon zest, plus 5 tablespoons freshly squeezed lemon juice (about 2 lemons)

2 tablespoons heavy cream

1 cup lemon curd

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Wrap outside of a lightly greased 9-inch shiny springform pan in a double layer of heavy-duty foil. Stir together crushed cookies and melted butter in a bowl and press into prepared pan.

Bake until lightly browned, 7 to 8 minutes. Cool on a wire rack until ready to use. Reduce oven temperature to 325 degrees.

Beat cream cheese with a heavy-duty mixer on medium speed until creamy, about 5 minutes. Gradually add sugar and flour, beating until smooth. Add eggs, one at a time, and then egg yolks one at a time, beating just until yellow disappears. Stir in lemon zest, lemon juice and heavy cream.

Pour cream cheese mixture over pre-baked crust. Place springform pan in a roasting pan. Add boiling water to reach halfway up sides of pan.

Bake at 325 degrees until center is almost set, but still slightly wobbly, about 1 hour and 10 minutes, up to 1 hour and 20 minutes. Turn oven off and with door partially open, let cake sit in oven for an additional hour.

Transfer curd to a bowl and place plastic wrap directly on warm curd (to prevent film from forming). Chill until firm, about 4 hours. Refrigerate in an airtight container up to 2 weeks.

touch top of cake. Chill 8 to 24 hours.

To serve: Gently run a knife around outer edge of the cheesecake to loosen it from the pan. Remove sides of springform pan. Spread top with 1 cup of lemon curd (recipe follows).

Makes 12 servings.

■ Adapted from Southern Living magazine, February 2017

### LEMON CURD

PG tested

It can be used as a topping or filling for desserts, folded into whipped cream or as a luscious spread on Lemon Poppy Seed Bread. It's easy enough to make and will last up to 2 weeks in the fridge in a airtight container.

1/2 cup salted butter softened

2 cups sugar

4 large eggs

2 large egg yolks

1 tablespoon lemon zest, plus 1 cup fresh juice (about 4 large lemons)

Beat butter and sugar with a mixer on medium speed until blended, about 45 seconds. Add eggs and yolks, one at a time until just blended after each addition. Gradually add lemon juice to butter mixture beating at low speed just until mixed. Stir in zest. (Mixture will look curdled.)

Transfer mixture to a heavy 4-quart saucepan, and cook, whisking constantly over medium-low heat until mixture thickens and coats the back of a spoon, 14 to 16 minutes.

Transfer curd to a bowl and place plastic wrap directly on warm curd (to prevent film from forming). Chill until firm, about 4 hours. Refrigerate in an airtight container up to 2 weeks.

■ Southern Living magazine, February 2017

### LEMON POPPY SEED QUICK BREAD

PG tested

This bread is easy and delicious. Slather it with cream cheese or lemon curd. Don't be tempted to skip the glaze, it makes the bread. The loaf can be frozen for up to 3 months.

2 cups flour  
1 cup sugar  
2 teaspoons baking powder  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1 egg, lightly beaten  
1 cup milk  
1/4 cup vegetable oil  
1 tablespoon finely shredded lemon peel

2 tablespoons lemon juice  
1 tablespoon poppy seeds

#### Lemon Glaze

2 tablespoons sugar  
2 tablespoons lemon juice

1 tablespoon butter

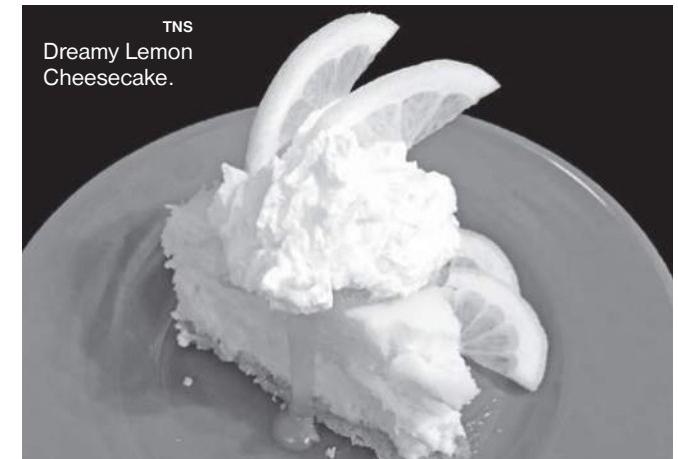
Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease the bottom and up the 1/2 inch up the sides of a 8-by-4-by-2-inch loaf pan and set aside. In a large bowl, stir together the flour, sugar, baking powder and salt, set aside.

Combine egg, milk, oil, lemon peel, 2 tablespoons lemon juice and the poppy seeds. Add egg mixture all at once to flour mixture and stir until moistened. Batter should be lumpy. Spoon batter into prepared pan, spreading evenly.

Bake for 50 to 55 minutes or until a tester comes out clean. Cool in pan on wire rack for 10 minutes.

Meanwhile, make the glaze. In a small saucepan combine glaze ingredients. Heat and stir over medium-low heat until sugar is dissolved.

Remove bread from pan. Poke holes in top of warm loaf



TNS Dreamy Lemon Cheesecake.



TNS Gooey Lemon Butter Cake.

with a fork and slowly brush with lemon glaze. Cool completely on a wire rack. Wrap and store overnight before slicing.

■ From "Better Home and Gardens Baking" by Better Homes & Gardens (Better Homes & Gardens; October 2013)

### GOOEY LEMON BUTTER CAKE

PG tested

This is a great dessert for the time-pinched cook. Utilizing a boxed mix and a few other handy ingredients, you can whip this up in no time. It's a Paula Deen recipe, so the butter content shouldn't be surprising.

Cake  
1 box lemon cake mix  
1 large egg  
8 tablespoons (1 stick) butter, melted

Filling  
1 (8-ounce) package cream cheese, at room temperature

2 large eggs  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
1/2 teaspoon lemon oil, or more to taste

1 tablespoon lemon zest  
8 tablespoons (1 stick) butter, melted

1 (16-ounce) box powdered sugar

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease a 13-by-9-inch baking pan with butter, oil or cooking spray.

For the cake: Place the cake mix, egg and melted butter in a large bowl and mix well using a large spoon,

until well combined. Scrape batter into prepared pan and smooth out. (Batter is stiff and will need to be pushed around by hand.)

For the filling: In the bowl of an electric mixer fitted with the paddle attachment, or using a handheld mixer, beat the cream cheese at medium speed until smooth. Add the eggs and vanilla, lemon oil and lemon zest, and beat well. Add the melted butter and beat until combined. Slowly add the powdered sugar, 1/4 cup at a time, beating after each addition. Using a spatula, spread the filling over the cake mixture and bake for 40 to 50 minutes. You want the center to be a little gooey, so be careful not to over bake. Stick a toothpick in the center and you should see a few wet crumbs stick to it.

■ From "Paula Deen's Southern Cooking Bible" by Paula Deen and Melissa Clark (Simon & Schuster; October 2011)

### LEMON'S STRENGTH

■ The juice of one lemon packs in the flavor for only 12 little calories and more than 35 percent of your daily needs for vitamin C.

■ Lemons also contain fiber, B vitamins, magnesium, health-protecting flavonoids and the antioxidant limonene.

■ Limonene is believed to have anti-cancer properties, but more research is needed.

■ Food Network

# Life & Style

## Investigation of Trump's charity wins Pulitzer Prize

**NEW YORK** (AP)—The biggest U.S. news story of 2016—the tumultuous presidential campaign—yielded a Pulitzer Prize on Monday for the Washington Post reporter who not only raised doubts about Donald Trump's charitable giving but also revealed that the candidate had been recorded crudely bragging about grabbing women.

David A. Fahrenthold won the prize for national reporting, with the judges citing stories that examined Trump's charitable foundation and called into question whether the real estate magnate was as generous as he claimed.

Fahrenthold's submission also included his story about Trump's raunchy behind-the-scenes comments during a 2005 taping of "Access Hollywood." His talk about groping women's genitals rocked the White House race and prompted a rare apology from the then-candidate.

In another election-related prize, Peggy Noonan of The Wall Street Journal won the Pulitzer for commentary for columns that "connected readers to the shared virtues of Americans during one of the nation's most divisive political campaigns."

The judges said Fahrenthold's reporting "created a model for transparent journalism," a model he built partly by using Twitter to publicize his efforts and let Trump see what he was doing. The president "can expect to see more of me on Twitter," said Fahrenthold, now part of a team looking at Trump businesses.

American journalism's most distinguished prizes also recognized work that shed light on international financial intrigue and held local officials accountable.

The New York Daily News and ProPublica won the Pulitzer in public service for uncovering how authorities used an obscure law, originally enacted to crack down on prostitution in Times Square in the 1970s, to evict hundreds of people, mostly poor minorities, from their homes.

"Thanks to this investigation, New York now sees how an extremely muscular law, combined with aggressive policing, combined with a lack of counsel, combined with lax judges produced damaging miscarriages of justice," Daily News Editor in Chief Arthur Browne said. The Daily News reporter credited with most of the work was Sarah Ryley.

ProPublica's managing editor, Robin Fields, said the project was "the type of collabora-

tion that ProPublica had in mind" when the independent, nonprofit organization was launched nine years ago.

The New York Times' staff received the international reporting award for its work on Russian President Vladimir Putin's efforts to project Moscow's power abroad. The award in feature writing went to the Times' C.J. Chivers for a story about a Marine's descent into violence after returning home from war.

Winners ranged from partnerships spanning hundreds of reporters to newspapers as small as The Storm Lake Times, a twice-weekly, 3,000-circulation family-owned paper in Iowa. Co-owner Art Cullen won the editorial writing award for challenging powerful corporate agricultural interests in the state.

Cullen said he was stunned by the win. "Nobody's ever heard of us before," he said with a laugh.

The prize for explanatory reporting went to the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists, McClatchy and the Miami Herald, which amassed a group of over 400 journalists to examine the leaked "Panama Papers" and expose the way that politicians, criminals and rich people stashed money in offshore accounts.

Meanwhile, the Herald's Jim Morin won the award for editorial cartooning. He also won in 1996.

Eric Eyre of The Charleston Gazette-Mail received the investigative reporting prize for articles showing that drug wholesalers had shipped 780 million hydrocodone and oxycodone pills to West Virginia in six years, as 1,728 people fatally overdosed on the painkillers. Eyre obtained Drug Enforcement Administration records that leading drug wholesalers had fought in court to keep secret.

The staff of the East Bay Times in Oakland, California, received the breaking news reporting award for its coverage of a fire that killed 36 people at a warehouse party and for its follow-up reporting on how local officials hadn't taken action that might have prevented it.

Executive Editor Neil Chase said the award was "tremendously humbling," but "you have to pause and realize that 36 people died in the fire, and this story should have never happened."

The staff of The Salt Lake Tribune received the local reporting award for its work on how Brigham Young University treated sexual assault vic-

tims. The series prompted the Mormon school to stop conducting honor code investigations into students who reported being sexually assaulted.

Hilton Als, a theater critic for The New Yorker, won in the criticism category. The judges praised how he strove to connect theater to the real-world, "shifting landscape of gender, sexuality and race."

Freelancer Daniel Berehulak received the breaking news photography award for his im-

ages, published in The New York Times, documenting Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte's crackdown on drug dealers and users. Berehulak won the feature photography Pulitzer in 2015 for his work on the Ebola outbreak in Africa.

This year's feature photography winner was E. Jason Wambags of the Chicago Tribune, for his portrayal of a 10-year-old boy who had been shot.

Amid concern about fake news and the role of the media, "it's just a very important time to try to help people see the importance of great journalism in their lives and in the democracy," prize administrator Mike Pride said as the awards were announced at Columbia University.

Arts prizes are awarded in seven categories, including fiction, drama and music. Among the arts winners, Colson Whitehead took the fiction

prize for "The Underground Railroad," a novel that combined flights of imagination with the grimdest and most realistic detail of 19th-century slavery. Playwright Lynn Nottage won her second drama Pulitzer, for "Sweat."

This is the 101st year of the contest, established by newspaper publisher Joseph Pulitzer. Public service award winners receive a gold medal; the other awards carry a prize of \$15,000 each.

IN CELEBRATION OF HER NEW LIFE

**† Aurora Reforma Travilla**

Lovingly known as "Auring"

Born to Life on February 21, 1932

Called to Eternal life on April 07, 2017

**In her new life, she now joins her:**

<b>Husband:</b>	†Eliceo C. Travilla
<b>Father:</b>	†Francisco G. Reforma
<b>Mother:</b>	†Beatriz D. Reforma
<b>Son:</b>	†Roland R. Travilla
<b>Sister:</b>	†Lolita R. Masocol
<b>Brothers:</b>	†Paquito D. Reforma †Hector D. Reforma

**Her memories will forever live in the hearts of her children and families:**

Gilbert R. and Angelina Travilla (Jillian, Mathew)  
Ferdinand R. and Norma Travilla (Dominic)  
**Mark R. Travilla**  
Frankelix and Veronica Travilla (Nicole, Paolo)  
Arabelle T. and Ferdinand Barretto (Alexandra)

**She will be greatly missed by her sisters and brother:**

Sylvia R. De Jesus  
Nestor D. Reforma  
Teresita R. Sismundo  
Pura R. Agua

**She is additionally survived by numerous nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.**

Daily Mass of Intentions for the repose of her soul is being celebrated each evening at San Antonio Church at 6:00 pm and Holy Rosary is being prayed at 7:00 pm at their residence in Afetnas, San Antonio.

Funeral Services will be held on Monday, April 17, 2017. Her remains will be escorted from Nuestra Señora de la Paz Memorial Chapel at 7:30 am to San Antonio Church. Responso Service and Holy Rosary will take place upon arrival of remains.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00 am followed by Interment Service at Mt. Carmel Cemetery where she will be laid to a peaceful rest with her husband †Eliceo.

**Please join us in prayers,  
Thank you - Maraming Salamat Po - Si Yu'us Ma'ase**

**Children and families of the late †Eliceo C. and †Aurora R. Travilla**

# Whitehead's 'Underground Railroad' wins fiction Pulitzer

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Colson Whitehead's "The Underground Railroad," his celebrated novel about an escaped slave that combined liberating imagination and brutal reality, has won the Pulitzer Prize for fiction.

Monday's announcement confirmed the book as the literary event of 2016, an Oprah Winfrey book club pick and critical favorite which last fall received the National Book Award, the first time in more than 20 years that the same work won the Pulitzer and National Book Award for fiction. Whitehead, known for such explorations of American myth and history as "John Henry Days," conceived his novel with what he calls a "goofy idea." Take the so-called Underground Railroad of history, the network of escape routes to freedom, and make it an actual train. He wove his fantasy together with a too-believable story of a young girl's flight from a plantation.

Whitehead finished "The Underground Railroad" well before Donald Trump's election but now finds parallels with the present.

"I think the book deals with white supremacy as a foundational error in the country's history and that foundational error is being played out now in the White House," he told The Associated Press on Monday. "When I was writing the book I wasn't thinking about current events, but I think you have to look at it differently now."

Other winners announced Monday also touched upon race and class, in the present and in the past.



In this April 2, 2009 file photo, playwright Lynn Nottage poses at home in New York. Nottage's play, "Sweat", was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for drama on Monday, April 10, 2017. AP

Lynn Nottage's "Sweat," which won for drama, explores how the shutdown of a Pennsylvania factory leads to the breakdown of friendship and family, and a devastating cycle of violence, prejudice, poverty and drugs. The play marks Nottage's Broadway debut and her second Pulitzer Prize. She is the writer of "Intimate Apparel," "By The Way, Meet Vera Stark" and "Ruined," which also won the Pulitzer.

"I was looking at how poverty and economic stagnation was beginning to shift our American narrative and how a culture was crying out," Nottage told the AP after her win Monday. "I'm very honored. I'm in a bit of a daze."

The history winner, Heather Ann Thompson's "Blood in the Water: The Attica Prison Uprising of 1971 and Its Legacy," examines the events that unfolded starting Sept. 9, 1971, when nearly 1,300 prisoners took over the Attica Correctional Facility in upstate New York to protest years of mistreatment. The work reveals the crimes committed during the uprising and its aftermath, who committed them, and how they were covered up.

Thompson, a historian at the University of Michigan, was teaching her second class of the day when her cellphone awakened with a call from her book agent about the win. Her students burst into applause.

Thompson said she was most happy that survivors of the uprising and subsequent brutal crackdown were able to have their stories told after more than four decades.

"Beyond Attica, I'm hoping that it also shines a light on inside these correctional facilities, of which we have more

in this country than any other country on the planet," she said. "I hope it reminds us that the 2.5 million people that are locked up in a correctional facility are human beings."

The general nonfiction winner was Matthew Desmond's "Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City," set in Milwaukee and praised by the Pulitzer board as "a deeply researched expose that showed how mass evictions after the 2008 economic crash were less a consequence than a cause of poverty." Desmond, who last month won a National Book

Critics Circle award, said Monday that he hoped his book would illuminate both the severity of the crisis and the role of government.

"You look at a public housing tower and a mortgaged suburban home," he told the AP. "Both are government subsidized, but they don't look anything alike. We seem a lot more willing to spend money on tax write-offs than on direct assistance."

Hisham Matar's "The Return: Fathers, Sons and the Land in Between" won for biography/autobiography; the Pulitzer board said Monday that Matar's memoir about his native Libya "examines with controlled emotion the past and present of an embattled region." Tyehimba Jess' "Olio" was the poetry winner, cited for melding performance art with poetry "to explore collective memory and challenge contemporary notions of race and identity."

The Pulitzer board gave the music award to Du Yun's "Angel's Bone" and called it a "bold" work which "integrates vocal and instrumental elements and a wide range of styles into a harrowing allegory for human trafficking in the modern world."

Yun had just returned from a day of panels at The Culture Summit in Abu Dhabi, and her librettist Royce Vavrek texted her the good news, which arrived close to midnight for Yun. She said that it was great to hear after a day of learning "how to use art and make art ... to advance cultural change" at The Culture Summit.

## 'Guerrilla' drama creator defends characters' ethnicity

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—John Ridley said he expected his "politically sharp" TV miniseries "Guerrilla," about England's 1970s black power movement, to be provocative.

But criticism that the drama excludes the role played by black female activists took him by surprise at a screening in London, he said Monday.

He pointed to his track record of writing for black actresses in projects including TV's "American Crime" (Regina King) and "12 Years a Slave" (Lupita Nyong'o, Quvenzhane Wallis), among others.

Given that, he said, it was odd to hear that people "feel as though I'm not putting enough women of color in spaces."

"I would say very sincerely to anybody, if they find fault with what I'm doing or how I'm doing it, you don't need to wait for me to tell your stories," Ridley said. "You don't need anybody's permission to go out and tell the story you

want to tell."

At last week's screening, Ridley was questioned by some audience members about the project's approach. "Guerrilla," debuting April 16 on Showtime, stars Indian actress Freida Pinto and black British actor Babou Ceesay as an activist couple.

One questioner said the writers were responsible for the "erasure" of black women from the story, according to The Hollywood Reporter.

Ridley reportedly grew emotional in trying to explain his decisions to the audience, at one point invoking his own interracial marriage. But he spoke calmly and carefully as he addressed the issue from the distance of several days.

The reaction to Pinto's Jas and Ceesay's Marcus "is actually part of the story we're telling," he said. "It's as old as 'Romeo and Juliet,' 'West Side Story' ... nobody can see their love the way they do."

## Box Office Top 20: 'The Boss Baby' squashes 'Smurfs 3'

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—"The Boss Baby" continued to dominate the box office in its second weekend in theaters, adding \$26.4 million to take the top spot. The animated flick featuring the voice of Alec Baldwin has earned \$89.4 million from North American theaters to date.

It effectively took the family business away from new opener "Smurfs: The Lost Village," which debuted to a dismal \$13.2 million in third place, behind Disney's juggernaut "Beauty and the Beast," which has now grossed \$430.9 million domestically.

Not too far behind the third "Smurfs" movie was the Warner Bros. heist comedy "Going in Style" starring Michael Caine, Morgan Freeman and Alan Arkin. "Going in Style" earned \$11.9 million in its first weekend in theaters.

Paramount's beleaguered "Ghost in the Shell" rounded out the top five with \$7.3 million.

1. "The Boss Baby," 20th Century Fox, \$26,363,488, 3,829 locations, \$6,885 average, \$89,436,806, 2 Weeks.	2. "Beauty And The Beast," Disney, \$23,652,605, 3,969 locations, \$5,959 average, \$430,946,639, 4 Weeks.	3. "Smurfs: The Lost Village," Sony, \$13,210,449, 3,610 locations, \$3,659 average, \$13,210,449, 1 Week.	4. "Going In Style," Warner Bros., \$11,932,330, 3,061 locations, \$3,898 average, \$11,932,330, 1 Week.	5. "Ghost In The Shell," Paramount, \$7,306,413, 3,440 locations, \$2,124 average, \$31,529,863, 2 Weeks.	6. "Power Rangers," Lions-	gate, \$6,199,403, 2,978 locations, \$2,082 average, \$75,095,645, 3 Weeks.	7. "Kong: Skull Island," Warner Bros., \$5,576,182, 2,753 locations, \$2,025 average, \$156,305,906, 5 Weeks.	8. "Get Out," Universal, \$4,057,330, 1,574 locations, \$2,578 average, \$162,889,980, 7 Weeks.	9. "Logan," 20th Century Fox, \$4,021,829, 1,948 locations, \$2,065 average, \$218,029,237, 6 Weeks.	10. "The Case For Christ," Pure Flix, \$3,967,885, 1,174 locations, \$3,380 average, \$3,967,885, 1 Week.	11. "The Zookeeper's Wife," Focus Features, \$2,684,185, 804 locations, \$3,339 average, \$7,398,710, 2 Weeks.	12. "Life," Sony, \$2,371,217, 1,788 locations, \$1,326 average, \$26,940,704, 3 Weeks.	13. "Your Name," FUNimation Films, \$1,688,192, 290 locations, \$5,821 average,	14. "Chips," Warner Bros., \$1,376,231, 1,351 locations, \$1,019 average, \$17,114,164, 3 Weeks.	15. "The Shack," Lionsgate, \$1,091,560, 1,108 locations, \$985 average, \$54,950,438, 6 Weeks.	16. "Gifted," Fox Searchlight, \$446,380, 56 locations, \$7,971 average, \$446,380, 1 Week.	17. "The Lego Batman Movie," Warner Bros., \$373,202, 345 locations, \$1,082 average, \$173,317,922, 9 Weeks.	18. "T2: Trainspotting," Sony, \$268,000, 159 locations, \$1,686 average, \$1,605,332, 4 Weeks.	19. "Hidden Figures," 20th Century Fox, \$265,247, 288 locations, \$921 average, \$168,276,311, 16 Weeks.	20. "The Belko Experiment," OTL Releasing, \$204,305, 186 locations, \$1,098 average, \$9,426,895, 4 Weeks.
--	--	--	--	---	----------------------------	---	---	---	--	---	--	---	---	--	---	---	---	---	---	---

# 21st Century Fox investigating O'Reilly harassment claims

**NEW YORK** (AP)—As advertisers flee Bill O'Reilly's nightly talk show amid mounting allegations of sexual harassment, Fox News parent 21st Century Fox is investigating one of those claims against its popular TV host.

The investigation is in response to a complaint lodged last week by Wendy Walsh, formerly a regular guest on Fox News' "The O'Reilly Factor" show.

"21st Century Fox investi-

gates all complaints and we have asked the law firm Paul, Weiss to continue assisting the company in these serious matters," the company said in a statement.

As part of the probe, Walsh and her lawyer, Lisa Bloom, had a two-hour phone interview with four Fox News lawyers Monday afternoon, Bloom said.

At a news conference last week, Bloom had detailed al-



In this combination photo, former Fox News contributor Wendy Walsh, left, appears at a news conference in the Woodland Hills section of Los Angeles on Monday, April 3, 2017, and Fox News personality Bill O'Reilly appears on the set of his show, "The O'Reilly Factor" on Oct. 1, 2015 in New York.

suing has run out.

"Nobody can silence me, because my voice is not for sale," she said.

Long Fox News' top-rated star, O'Reilly has seen his ratings rise even higher during the past year with the public's heightened interest in politics. Independent studies show he generates more than \$100 million in advertising revenue per year for TV's top-rated cable news network.

But in the past week, dozens of brands have said they're pulling ads from "The O'Reilly Factor" because of the allegations.

The O'Reilly uproar has reignited a problem Fox had hoped to contain after forcing out Fox News' founding boss Roger Ailes last summer in the wake of allegations of sexual harassment against him.

## Drake, the Chainsmokers lead with 22 Billboard Award nods

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Rapper Drake and EDM duo The Chainsmokers are the top contenders at the Billboard Music Awards with 22 nominations each.

Dick Clark Productions announced Monday that the performers set a record for most nominations in a year. The 2017 awards show will air live May 21 from the T-Mobile Arena in Las Vegas.

Other big contenders include twenty one pilots (17 nomina-

tions) and Rihanna (14).

Nominees for the biggest award, top artist, include Adele, Beyoncé, Justin Bieber, the Chainsmokers, Drake, Ariana Grande, Shawn Mendes, Rihanna, twenty one pilots and the Weeknd.

Albums from Beyoncé, Drake, Rihanna, twenty one pilots and the Weeknd are up for top Billboard 200 album.

The Billboard Awards have 52 categories. The show will air live on ABC.

legations against O'Reilly by Walsh, a psychologist and radio host.

Bloom said O'Reilly had told Walsh he would recommend her for a paid contributor role on the network. Walsh and O'Reilly had dinner in Los Angeles in 2013, but when Walsh refused his invitation to go back to his hotel room, his

attitude changed and she was soon dropped from the show, according to Walsh.

Bloom's pronouncements came on the heels of a report by The New York Times that five women had been paid \$13 million to settle allegations of sexual harassment or other inappropriate conduct by the top-rated host.

O'Reilly has denied all the allegations, saying that, as a prominent public figure, he is vulnerable to lawsuits from people who threaten to cause him bad publicity unless they get paid.

Walsh said she came forward because she was told by a Times reporter that many of the women who have accused O'Reilly of harassment are bound by gag orders. She said she is not bound by any such agreement, and the statute of limitations for

## Kylie Jenner getting reality TV show called 'Life of Kylie'

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Kylie Jenner is getting an E! reality series of her own.

The cable network has announced plans for a "Keeping up with the Kardashians" spinoff titled "Life of Kylie."

E! says the eight-episode series will document the life of the 19-year-old makeup entrepreneur as she juggles being a celebrity, a businesswoman and a teen.

The show is set to premiere this summer. It will include

other members of the Kardashian clan and some of Jenner's friends.

Jenner is the daughter of Caitlyn Jenner and Kris Jenner and the younger sister of model Kendall Jenner. Her older half siblings include Kim Kardashian West.

In this Jan. 8, 2017, file photo, Kylie Jenner arrives at the NBCUniversal Golden Globes afterparty at the Beverly Hilton Hotel in Beverly Hills, Calif.



## Rapping firefighters go viral with ode to hose in area codes

**NEW GLOUCESTER, MAINE** (AP)—They've got hose in different area codes.

Actually they don't because New Gloucester (GLAH-stur), like the rest of Maine, is located entirely in the 207 area code. But New Glouce-

ster Fire & Rescue's parody of the song "Area Codes" by Ludacris and Nate Dogg is going viral anyway.

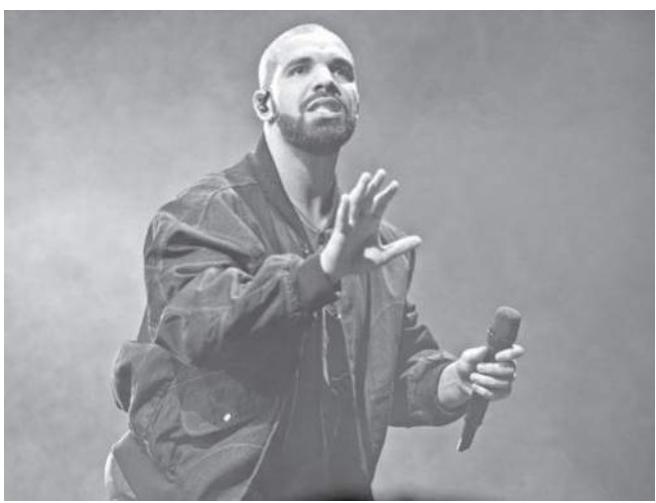
The fire department's using its parody video of the song as a recruitment tool. It features firefighters rapping and un-

folding firehoses while singing about how they've "got hose in different area codes."

The video had been viewed more than 318,000 times and shared about 5,000 by Monday afternoon.

WGME-TV

(<http://bit.ly/2oYAakA>) reports the video started as a collaboration by two firefighters. Conner Boucher was the main force behind it. He's hoping to parlay it into an appearance on "The Ellen DeGeneres (dih-JEN'-ur-us) Show."



In this Oct. 8, 2016 file photo, Drake performs onstage in Toronto. Drake and EDM duo The Chainsmokers are the top contenders at the Billboard Music Awards with 22 nominations each.

## Wife punished for infidelity must insist on counseling

**D**EAR ABBY: I have been with my husband for 12 years, married for three. I had an affair a little over a year ago that he found out about. He has let me back into the house, but he demeans my character at every opportunity. I don't fight back because I know I am the cause of his pain.

We have a 3-year-old daughter, and I am now six weeks pregnant with his child. I do not want to argue with him, because if I had been a better wife, he would not be so angry. But the hurt I feel from his words over the past months is weighing heavy on me, especially with my new hormones. I'm holding it in, but should I leave? Become a single mother? How can I get him to a counselor?

NEEDS COUNSELING

**DEAR NEEDS:** I do not mean to minimize your infidelity, but you had better take a stand and give your husband an ultimatum: Heal the marriage through marriage counseling, or you leave. Be prepared to follow through, because without professional intervention nothing will change. The situation you describe is unhealthy not only for you and your unborn child, but also for your little girl. Your daughter should not be raised to think that this toxic environment is normal.

**DEAR ABBY:** I'm a lesbian and have been in a relationship

with a woman for two months now. She never offers to pay for our dates, and she hasn't planned or executed one, either. We're both very feminine, although she would be considered slightly more so than I am. I feel this is important because I'm somehow the more dominant one. How can I address this concern without hurting her? I would like her to reciprocate somewhat.

DOMINANT IN CALIFORNIA

**DEAR DOMINANT:** Address the imbalance in your relationship by being straightforward about it. Good manners dictate that when someone has been asked out, treated, etc., that person should reciprocate. Because that's not happening, you need to discuss it with her. To do so isn't hurtful; it's common sense, because unless you do, this pattern will continue.

**DEAR ABBY:** I have been with the same man for six months. He has been separated from his wife for 10 years—but not legally. When he finally decided to tell her there is someone else and he's moving on, she went crazy. She said she wants alimony and half of everything, plus the house will have to be sold because she will not allow "the new woman" to live in "her" house.

It's been a month since he told her. We talked to a lawyer about a divorce, but all he is worried about is paying alimony

## DEAR ABBY

**By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

*Dear Abby* is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



and losing the house. I am getting sick of hearing about it. All he keeps saying is, "I love you, but I don't want to lose my house or pay her money." What should I do?

FIGHT OR FLIGHT IN MASSACHUSETTS

**DEAR FIGHT OR FLIGHT:** Your boyfriend appears to be unwilling to pay the price for a divorce. So what you should do is flee. The longer you stick around, the deeper you will become enmeshed in his drama, and the more complicated it will become.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

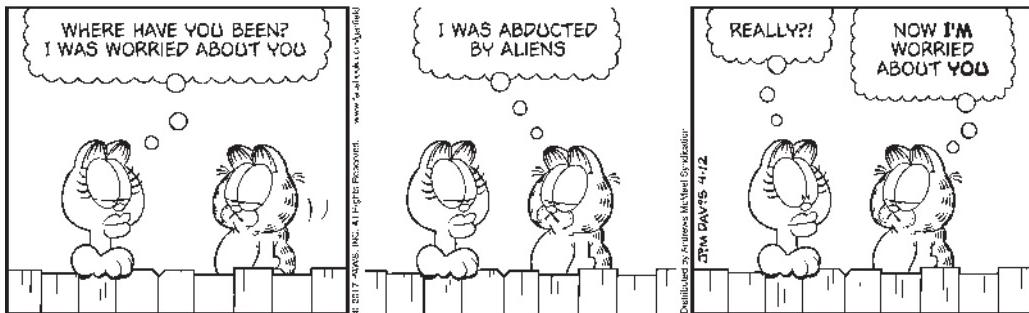
# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Waterson

## Garfield®



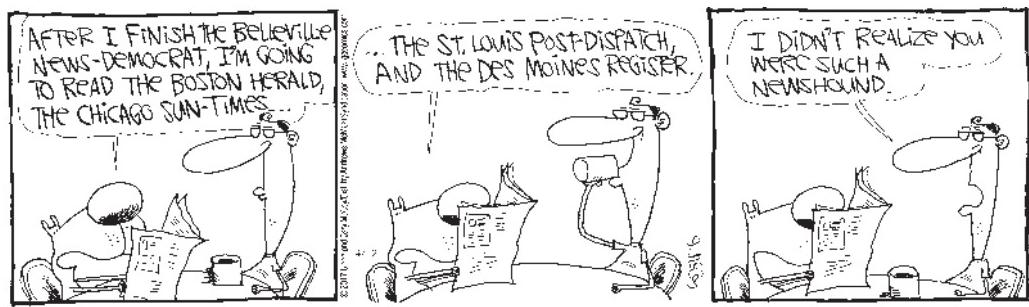
By Jim Davis

## Adam@home



By Bryan Basset

## The Duplex



By Glenn McCoy

## CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS		DOWN	
1 Jets or Sharks	39 Prefix with gram or center	1 Kaplan who played Kotter	16 Sugar suffix
5 Shriner's cap	41 Brainiac	2 Adams and Poehler	20 Lotion additive
8 Help a hood	43 Home of St. Francis	22 Aachen article	22 Showy parrot
12 Cupid's specialty	46 Ship's rear	23 Eggys	25 "Fresh Air" airer
13 Mamie's man	50 Mint product	26 Welcomes	26 Swiss canton
14 Youngster	51 Incidentally	5 Fragrant tree	27 Deliberately
15 "Good gracious!"	54 Olympic sled	6 Heart chart (Abbr.)	29 Get over-emotional
17 Tarzan's clique	55 Debtor's letters	7 Zorro's marks	31 Pair
18 Road curves	56 Prop for Dr. House	8 Dickens title	32 "You bet!"
19 Light lunches	57 Greician vessels	9 Circumvented	34 Elevator name
21 Abound	58 Boston team, for short	10 Scratched (out)	38 Montezuma's people
24 Guitar master Paul	59 Peevish fit	11 Hardy lass	40 Fragrant trees
25 Worn-down pencils		42 Somewhat (Suff.)	42 Some-what (Suff.)
28 "Othello" villain		43 Rights org.	43 Rights org.
30 Pigs' digs		44 Tart	44 Tart
33 Snoop		45 Nile bird	45 Nile bird
34 Perfectly timed		47 Actor	47 Actor
35 Ram's mate		48 Hindu royal	48 Hindu royal
36 Free (of)		49 Russian refusal	49 Russian refusal
37 Herbal brews		52 — "hoo!"	52 — "hoo!"
38 Big fusses		53 Prom rental	53 Prom rental



### CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:

Zayn Malik, 25; Naya Rivera, 31; Oliver Platt, 58; Kirstie Alley, 67.

**Happy Birthday:** Look for new ways to express your talents, skills and knowledge. Don't let a lack of confidence deplete your ability to advance when you have as much, if not more, to offer. Believe and trust in your abilities and promote your strengths to maximize your chance to get ahead. Don't let negativity defeat your chance to advance. Your numbers are 5, 17, 21, 28, 32, 44, 46.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19): Get organized and move forward with your plans. Learn as you go, but don't let pride stand between you and your success. Take care of personal matters pertaining to taxes, investments and dealing with institutions. ☀️☀️

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): Emotions will surface, making it easier for you to say exactly what you think and what you want to see happen to people who sometimes make it difficult for you to stand up for yourself. Follow through with your demands. ☀️☀️

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): Do some fact-finding before you discuss your plans or the changes you are going to put in place. Knowing what you are up against before you make a promise to take part in a challenge will be necessary. Protect your partnerships. ☀️☀️

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): Be prepared to voice your opinion if someone tries to force you into something you don't feel is in your best interest. Stay focused on what's important to you and bring about the

changes that will help you get ahead. ☀️☀️☀️

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): Be ready to prove your point. Have your facts ready and prepare for battle. Once you establish your position, it will be much easier to manipulate the situation to suit your needs. Don't take risks while traveling or engaging in physical activities. ☀️☀️

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Make a point to show interest in someone who looks up to you. How you handle youngsters and peers will determine how much help you receive. Sharing personal information or taking a day trip to visit someone you miss is favored. ☀️☀️☀️

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Use past experiences to deal with personal issues. Once you isolate what the problem is, it will be easier to find a workable solution. Change can be good if everyone agrees. Strive for equality and offer incentives. ☀️☀️

**TAURUS** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Dreams can turn into reality. Let your imagination lead the way and your intense and passionate approach to your goals carry you to the finish line. Victory will be yours, but it should be shared with someone you love. ☀️☀️

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You'll have trouble facing up to facts when it comes to emotional matters and the way someone treats you. Don't believe everything you hear when it comes to someone who is using emotional manipulation to get his or her way. ☀️☀️

**SCORPIO** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Dreams can turn into reality. Let your imagination lead the way and your intense and passionate approach to your goals carry you to the finish line. Victory will be yours, but it should be shared with someone you love. ☀️☀️

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): Speak up about the way you feel. Share your expectations and put together a plan that will help you reach your goals. You will gain ground as well as funds to help you turn your ideas into a reality. ☀️☀️☀️

**Birthday Baby:** You are passionate, original and insightful. You are farsighted and persistent.

Eugenia's websites -- [eugenialast.com](http://eugenialast.com) for Ask Eugenia, daily timing and compatibility services, and join Eugenia on [twitter/facebook/linkedin](http://twitter/facebook/linkedin).

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD  
IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Look for alternative options when dealing with work-related problems. Working quietly on your own will help you avoid interference. Finish what you start before you decide to put your work on display. Romance will lift your spirits. ☀️☀️

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Emotions will be difficult to control once you let them out into the open. Think before you say something you might regret. Stay focused on making personal changes that will lead to greater satisfaction and confidence. Avoid senseless arguments. ☀️☀️

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Dreams can turn into reality. Let your imagination lead the way and your intense and passionate approach to your goals carry you to the finish line. Victory will be yours, but it should be shared with someone you love. ☀️☀️

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): Speak up about the way you feel. Share your expectations and put together a plan that will help you reach your goals. You will gain ground as well as funds to help you turn your ideas into a reality. ☀️☀️☀️

**BIRTHDAY BABY:** You are passionate, original and insightful. You are farsighted and persistent.

## SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11	
12					13				14				
15					16				17				
18						19	20						
					21	22	23	24					
25	26	27			28	29			30	31	32		
33					34				35				
36					37				38				
					39	40			41	42			
43	44					45			46		47	48	49
50						51	52	53					
54						55			56				
57						58			59				

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**STUMPED?**

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

4	2	5	7	3	9	8	1	6
3	6	1	2	8	4	7	9	5
7	9	8	5	6	1	4	3	2
5	1	9	3	2	8	6	4	7
8	7	2	4	9	6	1	5	3
6	4	3	1	5	7	2	8	9
1	3	6	9	4	2	5	7	8
2	5	7	8	1	3	9	6	4
9	8	4	6	7	5	3	2	1

Difficulty Level ★★★

4/12

©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

## WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

PALEONTOLOGISTS

Solution: 9 letters

L	T	P	S	C	I	T	S	A	T	S	E	M
I	A	E	T	A	C	O	L	G	N	I	Z	G
S	P	T	A	L	S	K	C	A	R	T	Y	I
S	H	R	N	C	I	P	T	V	O	G	N	E</

# CLASSIFIED ADS



EMPLOYMENT

3-Cook, 2-Maintenance, 2-Beautician, 2-Commercial Cleaner with at least 2 years experience. Interested applicants call Susan S. Castro at 287-5961.



LOOKING FOR HOUSE

Looking to buy or long term lease house/apartment. Will pay cash. Call for Zheng at 287-7676.

[www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com)

## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

### (1) Maintenance Worker

Five years experience

Salary: \$6.55/hour

Able to trim and maintain flowers. Rake fallen leaves and branches. Sweep and wash walkways. Clean and wash glass windows and do other related chores to help maintain cleanliness and safety of a building rental.

If interested,  
call Papago Heights Rental  
at 256-7767

## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

### COOK

Prepare and cook food in deli/restaurant establishment. Clean food preparation areas, cooking surfaces, and utensils. Operate large-volume cooking equipment such as grills, deep-fat fryers, or griddles. Verify that prepared food meets requirements for quality and quantity. Take food and drink orders and receive payment from customers. Read food order slips or receive verbal instructions as to food required by patron, and prepare and cook food according to instructions. Wash, cut, and prepare foods designated for cooking. Cook the exact number of items ordered by each customer, working on several different orders simultaneously. Plans menu for each day to be served to customers ensuring kitchen supply is enough. Maintain sanitation, health, and safety standards in work areas. Keep kitchen in neat and orderly fashion. Does other related duties as assigned from time to time.

Qualifications: Preferably a high school graduate with a minimum six months to a year work related experience as a cook at a food service facility. Must have good communication skills and be flexible with schedule. Must be able to work on weekends and holidays. Applicants will be asked to complete a skilled test during the application process.

Applications can be picked up at Joeten Susupe, 2nd floor Main office.  
Please no phone calls.

J. C. Tenorio Enterprises, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer.

## JAR DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION

Looking for (3) Mason  
5 Years Experience, Skilled Worker With Good Working Character & Personality

P.O. Box 504249 CK,  
Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel.: 285-5354 / 285-4297

## C & R CORPORATION

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT  
1 Business Development Executive  
For inquiry, please call 235-7379 or email resume at [candr@pticom.com](mailto:candr@pticom.com)

WHATZIT Solution: A stitch in time

## CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

## CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as \$30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

### ADS

	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$30
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$45

## ADVERTISING DEADLINE

### Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

## CANCELLATION

### Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

## REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

## CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

## ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

# WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

minstitchute

# Heat stay alive, rally to top Cavaliers in OT



**MIAMI** (AP)—Tyler Johnson scored 24 points, including the game's final four from the foul line, and the Miami Heat remained alive in the postseason chase by rallying to beat the Cleveland Cavaliers 124-121 on Monday night.

Hassan Whiteside scored 23 points and grabbed 18 rebounds for Miami, which would have been eliminated with a loss. Josh Richardson scored 19 points, James Johnson had 16 and Goran Dragic added 15.

Deron Williams had a season-high 35 points, along with nine assists and seven rebounds for the Cavaliers, who fell to 0-7 this season when LeBron James doesn't play.

The Cavs were also without Kyrie Irving and Tristan Thompson, and fell a game behind Boston in the race for No. 1 in the Eastern Conference. Kevin Love scored 25 points, Channing Frye had 21 and Kyle Korver had 18.

Miami survived despite Cleveland getting two four-point plays in overtime, including one by Williams with 34 seconds left that put the Heat on the brink. But Johnson scored the last four points, and Miami stayed in the No. 9 spot in the East.

## Celtics 114, Nets 105

In Boston, Isaiah Thomas scored 27 points to help Boston beat back a fourth-quarter charge and defeat Brooklyn to keep alive hopes of securing the Eastern Conference's top seed.

The Celtics clinched the Atlantic Division title and can finish with no worse than the No. 2 seed.

With Cleveland's overtime loss at Miami on Monday night, a Boston win in its regular-season finale against Milwaukee on Wednesday would give the Celtics the No. 1 seed. But if Boston loses to the Bucks and Cleveland wins its finale against Toronto, the Cavs would own the tiebreaker by virtue of their 3-1 head-to-head record with Boston.

## Jazz 105, Warriors 99

In Oakland, Rudy Gobert had 17 points and 18 rebounds, Joe Johnson added a key 3-pointer with 80 seconds remaining and Utah snapped Golden State's 14-game winning streak.

Golden State coach Steve Kerr, his team already assured of the No. 1 seed in the playoffs, opted to rest most of his starters for the entire fourth quarter and the Jazz (50-31) took advantage to end a seven-game losing streak at Oracle Arena.

George Hill had 20 points and Johnson finished with 19, including five 3s, as Utah also kept alive its shot at moving



past the Clippers for the No. 4 seed in the West.

Stephen Curry had 28 points in three quarters for the Warriors (66-15), while Kevin Durant added 16 points, 10 rebounds and six assists in his second game back from a knee injury.

## Clippers 125, Rockets 96

In Los Angeles, Chris Paul scored 19 points, Blake Griffin added 18 and Los Angeles routed Houston to remain tied with Utah in the race for the No. 4 playoff seed.

The Clippers earned their sixth consecutive victory shortly after the Jazz won at Golden State. Both teams are 50-31 with one game remaining before they meet in the playoffs with only home court yet to be decided.

Former Clipper Eric Gordon led the Rockets with 17 points. James Harden shot 2 of 9 for 14 points, well under his 29.3 average. He missed 5 of 6 3-pointers.

## Trail Blazers 99, Spurs 98

In Portland, Noah Vonleh

made a layup at the buzzer and Portland beat San Antonio despite resting starters Damian Lillard and CJ McCollum.

Shabazz Napier scored a career-high 32 points for

Portland, which won its third straight a day after Denver's loss to Oklahoma City gave the Blazers the eighth and final playoff spot in the West.

Kawhi Leonard led the

that the players get on that guy before the coach does, that's when you have something special."

San Francisco's players, after one-and-done coach Chip Kelly was fired following last season's 2-14 finish, often spoke about the lack of accountability in the locker room.

Turning that around was the message Shanahan tried to impart when he spoke to the 49ers as a group Monday for the first time.

That kind of message is

something the club's veterans are used to. Shanahan joins Jim Tomsula and Kelly as the third coach in as many seasons trying to turn things around after the team "mutually parted" with Jim Harbaugh after an 8-8 finish to 2014.

**AP** Miami Heat guard Tyler Johnson (8) lands on Cleveland Cavaliers guard Iman Shumpert after trying to prevent a shot during the second half of an NBA basketball game, Monday, April 10, 2017, in Miami. The Heat defeated the Cavaliers in overtime, 124-121.

Spurs with 18 points.

Portland took an 88-87 lead on Napier's 3-pointer before Bryn Forbes answered with a 3 for the Spurs. San Antonio extended the lead on Jonathon Simmons' dunk and Kyle Anderson's basket.

## Pacers 120, Sixers 111

In Philadelphia, Paul George scored 17 of his 27 points in the opening quarter and Indiana inched closer to clinching a berth in the NBA playoffs.

Thaddeus Young added 20 points, Myles Turner scored 18 and Kevin Seraphin had 17 to give the Pacers (41-40) their fourth straight victory and push them one win away from guaranteeing a playoff spot for the sixth time in the past seven years.

The 76ers (28-53) lost for the seventh straight time and finished with a home record of 17-24.

## Bucks 89, Hornets 79

In Milwaukee, Tony Snell scored 16 points, Jason Terry had season highs of 15 points and five 3-pointers, and Milwaukee beat Charlotte.

Center Greg Monroe provided punch in the paint with 16 points and nine rebounds for the Bucks, who clinched at least the sixth seed in the Eastern Conference playoffs with the win.

Giannis Antetokounmpo picked up his third triple-double of the season with 10

points, 11 rebounds and 10 assists, clinching the feat after firing a pass with 54 seconds left to Khris Middleton for a 3.

The Hornets led for much of the first three quarters despite being without leading scorer Kemba Walker because of a hyperextended left knee.

## Bulls 122, Magic 75

In Chicago, emergency starter Jerian Grant had 17 points and a career-high 11 assists, and Chicago routed Orlando to move closer to a postseason berth.

The Bulls led by as many as 47 points in their largest margin of victory this season. They would have clinched a playoff berth with a Miami loss to Cleveland, but the Heat's rally means Chicago will have until its final regular-season game. The Bulls host the Brooklyn Nets on Wednesday.

Chicago and Miami remained one game behind No. 7 Indiana after the Pacers beat the 76ers in Philadelphia. The Bulls (40-41) would claim a three-way tie if the teams finish with the same record.

## Wizards 105, Pistons 101

In Auburn Hills, Bradley Beal scored 33 points and Washington beat Detroit in the final game at the Palace of Auburn Hills.

Markieff Morris added 20 points for the Wizards, while Tobias Harris led the Pistons with 22.

The highlight of the night for Detroit fans was a half-time ceremony that honored the top players from the three championship teams, with Isiah Thomas and Dennis Rodman posing for pictures with Ben Wallace and Chauncey Billups.

## 49ers' Shanahan wants players to dictate improved culture



**SANTA CLARA, Calif.** (AP)—The theme emanating from the 49ers' headquarters amid their transition to a fourth coaching staff in four seasons is all about culture.

Only first-time head coach Kyle Shanahan isn't counting on his staff to dictate a winning attitude.

It's up to the players.

"Coaches can talk until they're blue in the face about what they want their standard to be, but that's all just coach talk and it's not really real until the players do that," Shanahan said at the start of the offseason program Monday.

"When the players hold each other accountable, when the players have a certain standard that they go to, whenever a guy is slacking,

that the players get on that guy before the coach does, that's when you have something special."

San Francisco's players, after one-and-done coach Chip Kelly was fired following last season's 2-14 finish, often spoke about the lack of accountability in the locker room.

Turning that around was the message Shanahan tried to impart when he spoke to the 49ers as a group Monday for the first time.

That kind of message is

something the club's veterans are used to. Shanahan joins Jim Tomsula and Kelly as the third coach in as many seasons trying to turn things around after the team "mutually parted" with Jim Harbaugh after an 8-8 finish to 2014.

The team also fired general manager Trent Baalke, hiring John Lynch from the broadcast booth to run an organization for the first time.

"Things needed a change," five-time Pro Bowl tackle Joe Staley said. "You look inwardly to what you control and what you as a player can do differently."

"And that's something that I challenged myself to do a lot more, and speak up when it's uncomfortable and getting more comfortable with being uncomfortable."

The 49ers on Monday began the first phase of the offseason program, which includes weight training and conditioning on the practice field. Coaches can only work with players in the meeting room to go over the new playbook.

Coaches can get back out to the practice field during the first voluntary minicamp April 25, when All-Pro linebacker NaVorro Bowman expects to resume work after suffering an Achilles tear in early October.

"Well I did the running test today. I participated in everything," Bowman said. "I'm feeling good, just trying to get out the last kinks and make sure I'm ready for minicamp coming up."

Bowman suffered the injury to his left leg against the Cowboys in Week 4. His absence was the most notable for a defense that dealt with a long list of injuries before finishing ranked last in opponents' yardage and scoring. The defense allowed a franchise-worst 2,654 yards rushing.

# Cubs finally raise championship flag, nip Dodgers

 **CHICAGO** (AP)—Anthony Rizzo hit a game-winning single off closer Kenley Jansen in the ninth inning, and the Chicago Cubs beat the Los Angeles Dodgers 3-2 on Monday night after raising a World Series championship banner for the first time at Wrigley Field.

Pinch-hitter Jon Jay started the decisive rally with a leadoff single against Sergio Romo (0-1). With two outs and Jay on third, Rizzo sliced a 1-1 pitch from Jansen into left field for his first RBI this season.

Wade Davis (1-0) pitched a scoreless inning for his first win with the Cubs, who blew a 2-0 lead before a dramatic victory in their rain-delayed home opener.

Rizzo also heard wild cheers earlier in the night when he started the 2016 flag toward the top of a pole in right-center before handing the reins over to his smiling teammates. Rizzo then emerged from under the bleachers with the championship trophy, drawing another big ovation from the sellout crowd of 41,166.

Before November's epic Game 7 win in Cleveland, the Cubs had not won the World Series since 1908. They moved into Wrigley eight years later, making Monday's celebration the first of its kind at the cozy neighborhood ballpark.

"The best part about last year was we all got to be part of something bigger than ourselves," said President of Baseball Operations Theo Epstein, the architect of a top-to-bottom overhaul that ended years of heartbreak and frustration on Chicago's North Side. "Feel connected to each other and the fans and the organization and the city and you know, they say all glory is fleeting, and it is, but the flag will fly forever and that feeling of being part of something bigger than ourselves will last forever, too. I think, to me, that's what it symbolizes."

Epstein knew all about ending curses and droughts when he came to Chicago in October 2011. He won two championships as Red Sox general manager, the first for Boston since 1918. And he helped end the longest drought in North American professional sports last season following a major overhaul of the franchise.

In some ways, the celebration is still going strong. The flag-raising along with the ring presentation Wednesday figure to put the final punctuation marks on it.

But on Monday, Kris Bryant felt as though he was arriving for a playoff game. The

reigning NL MVP saw fans braving the rain and jamming the neighborhood, particularly the sparkling new plaza outside Wrigley Field.

"This place is unlike any other," Bryant said.

The ivy-covered outfield walls, manual scoreboard, neighboring rooftops and location in a vibrant residential neighborhood packed with restaurants and bars create a unique atmosphere. Some players and executives, including Epstein, choose to live in the surrounding blocks, adding to the bond between the fans and a franchise long defined by heartbreak.

## Giants 4, Diamondbacks 1

In San Francisco, Buster Posey was doing well after being struck in the helmet by a 94 mph fastball in the first inning, a frightening moment during San Francisco's victory over the Arizona Diamondbacks in its home opener.

Posey will be re-evaluated Tuesday but was doing fine, according to manager Bruce Bochy. The star catcher is likely to sit out Tuesday's game.

Taijuan Walker's 0-1 fastball with two outs in the first inning sent Posey immediately to ground. Athletic trainer Dave Groeschner sprinted toward the plate and Bochy was right behind. Posey got up on his own but exited the game.

## Tigers 2, Red Sox 1

In Detroit, Justin Verlander and Chris Sale dominated in a matchup of ace pitchers before Nicholas Castellanos singled in the go-ahead run off Sale in the eighth inning, lifting Detroit over Boston.

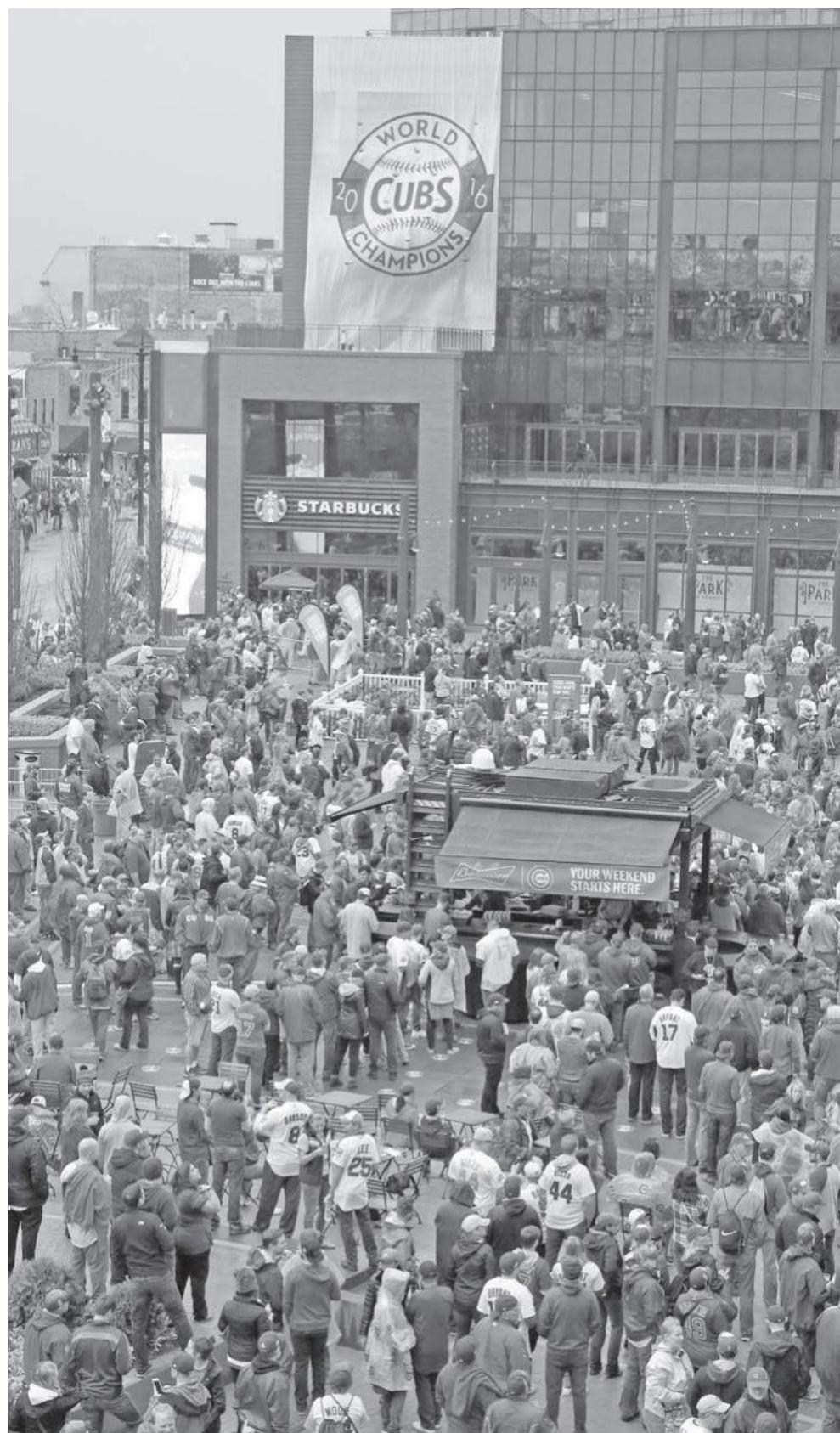
Verlander gave up an unearned run, three hits and two walks while striking out four over seven innings. Justin Wilson (1-0) struck out one and walked one in the eighth and Francisco Rodriguez struck out two and allowed a hit in the ninth, earning his second save in three chances.

Sale (0-1) struck out 10 and gave up two runs and five hits over 7 2/3 innings.

## Yankees 8, Rays 1

In New York, Michael Pineda retired his first 20 batters before Evan Longoria lined a double down the left-field line, and he wound up pitching two-hit ball over 7 2/3 innings in New York's home opener.

Pineda (1-1) dominated like the pitcher the Yankees have always hoped he would become. He struck out 11, walked none and threw 67 of 93 pitches for strikes. Tampa Bay's Logan Morrison homered with one out in the



Fans gather outside in the Park at Wrigley before a baseball game between the Chicago Cubs and the Los Angeles Dodgers on home opening day, Monday, April 10, 2017, in Chicago. AP

hits, and the Nationals overcame four errors. They broke open the game in a seven-run eighth inning.

## Mets 4, Phillies 3

In Philadelphia, Jay Bruce homered twice, including the tiebreaking shot in a testy eighth inning to lead New York over Philadelphia.

Recently bumped up to the cleanup spot, Bruce put the Mets in front 4-2 with a towering, two-run drive off his own digital image on the videoboard in right field. He connected on a 1-2 pitch from left-hander Joely Rodriguez, giving Bruce four homers this season and three in the past two days after many expected New York to trade him last winter.

Tempers flared two batters earlier when Phillies reliever Edubray Ramos (0-1) threw a first-pitch fastball over Asdrubal Cabrera's head—perhaps seeking revenge for Cabrera's two-handed bat flip after hitting a game-winning homer against Ramos last Sept. 22 as the Mets were chasing a playoff berth.

Players on both teams stayed in the dugout but Phillies manager Pete Mackanin was ejected by plate umpire Allan Porter, apparently for questioning Porter's warning to both sides following the pitch.

Addison Reed allowed Brock Stassi's solo homer in the ninth but recovered to earn his second save. Stassi's drive was his first major league hit.

## Reds 7, Pirates 1

In Pittsburgh, Eugenio Suarez and Scooter Gennett homered, and Cincinnati took advantage of wild Pittsburgh starter Tyler Glasnow.

Making his season debut, Glasnow (0-1) failed to make it out of the second inning. The right-hander walked five -- including four straight in the first—and left after throwing just 35 of his 64 pitches for strikes.

Billy Hamilton had two of the Reds' eight hits and added a pair of stolen bases. Michael Lorenzen (1-0) worked three shutout innings in relief of erratic starter Brandon Finnegan. Cincinnati's bullpen retired 21 straight to end the game.

The Pirates managed only four hits and stranded eight, going 0 for 9 with runners in scoring position.

eighth, a ball that hit off the top of the wall in right-center and deflected off a fan before bouncing back onto the field. A video review was needed to determine it was a home run.

## Padres 5, Rockies 3

In Denver, Wil Myers hit a leadoff triple in the eighth inning to complete the first cycle of his career and send San Diego past Colorado.

Myers singled in the first, doubled in the third and homered in the sixth to help the Padres win for the third time in four games. Matt Kemp had the only other cycle in San Diego history on Aug. 14, 2015, also at Coors Field.

Hunter Renfroe homered for the Padres, a two-run shot off Tyler Chatwood (0-2).

## Mariners 6, Astros 0

In Seattle, James Paxton shut down Houston for the second

time in a week, pitching seven innings of four-hit ball and leading Seattle to a win in its home opener.

The Mariners rebounded nicely from Sunday's ugly

ninth-inning meltdown against the Angels when they gave up seven runs and lost 10-9. Paxton (1-0) was a big reason why, keeping Houston's offense silent long enough for Seattle's bats to wake up and finally convert with runners in scoring position. Paxton struck out eight and walked two while pitching in Seattle's home opener for the second time in his career.

## Athletics 2, Royals 0

In Kansas City, Khris Davis hit a two-run homer, Jharel Cotton shut down Kansas

City's anemic offense and Oakland held on to spoil the Royals' home opener.

Cotton (1-1) gave up a

single in the first and another in the sixth, but otherwise befuddled a Royals lineup that hasn't shown much punch. He walked three and struck out six over seven innings.

Sean Doolittle ran into trouble in the ninth, putting runners on the corners with two outs. He bounced back to strike out Brandon Moss for his first save, helping the A's beat the Royals for the seventh consecutive time.

## Nationals 14, Cardinals 6

In Washington, Bryce Harper tied a career high with four hits and reached base in all six plate appearances as Washington routed St. Louis.

Harper drove in three runs during his first four-hit game since April 17, 2013.

Stephen Drew, Adam Eaton and Ryan Zimmerman each had three of Washington's 19

# US, Canada, Mexico ask FIFA for faster World Cup bid process

**GENEVA** (AP)—The North American bid to host the 2026 World Cup has asked FIFA for a decision in June 2018, two years ahead of schedule.

In a letter seen by The Associated Press, the soccer federations from the United States, Canada and Mexico asked FIFA to consider their request next month in Bahrain at its annual congress.

The bid, launched in New York on Monday, is likely the only realistic option for FIFA's 211 member federations who are scheduled to choose the 2026 host in May 2020. That timetable could be fast-tracked on May 11 in Manama.

The extra agenda item, written in the letter dated March 11, asks FIFA members to make a "principle decision" for the 2026 tournament to be "jointly and cooperatively organized" in North America.

If approved, FIFA could then ask the bid to show the Zurich-based administration it meets all technical demands by a March 31 deadline.

That would allow time to prepare a confirmation of the 2026 hosts at the next congress in Moscow. The Russian capital hosts the annual meeting on the eve of the opening



AP

Sunil Gulati, left, President of the United States Soccer Federation, Decio de Maria, center, President of the Mexican Football Federation, and Victor Montagliani, President of the Canadian Soccer Association, hold a news conference, Monday, April 10, 2017, in New York. The three soccer federations announced a bid to co-host the 2026 World Cup.

match of the 2018 World Cup.

FIFA bidding rules have made the North American bid a strong favorite to win because Europe and Asia cannot present a candidate. Those continents

are blocked because they will have staged the previous two editions in Russia and Qatar.

Although South America and Africa can rival the U.S.-led bid, Argentina and Uruguay—the original World Cup host

summer. The Micro Games in Yap will take place from July 16 to 28.

With tennis and swimming out, the Team Marianas will be pinning its hopes on the island's entries in athletics. Athletics, baseball, volleyball, weightlifting, paddling/canoe, and basketball associations are among the groups that expressed interests in sending athletes and officials to the Micro Games.

In the 2014 Micro Games in Pohnpei, Team Marianas won 14 gold medals, 15 silvers, and five bronze—with 15 coming from athletics, 12 from weightlifting, four from swimming, and one each from canoe, baseball, and women's basketball. In the 2010 Micronesian Games where the CNMI won its most gold medals (44) in the history of the quadrennial event, swimming contributed 35 medals, while tennis had 11.

played last Thursday and topped Titanium (2-6), 8-3.

GSM scored three runs apiece in the first and fourth inning to gain cushion and limited Titanium to no more than one run in each of the three innings it hit the board.

Omar was also second on GSM's top of the order and registered two RBIs after going 2-for-4 at bat. He had a triple, single, and one run. Third baseman Peter Tomokane also went 2-for-4 at the plate and contributed two runs and one RBI, while three other GSM players chipped in one RBI apiece. Brel had no RBI, but got two runs and was the third GSM player to hit 2-for-4 at the plate.

In other results last week, defending champions Chalan Kanoa Bears are still at the top half of the team standings in the eight-squad field after defeating the Comets, 15-6.

J.J. Lizama threw a two-hitter in shutting down the Comets in the first five innings to help the Bears improve their record to 5-4 for third place in the leadboard.

With Lizama yielding no run to the Comets in the first five innings, the Bears built a 5-0 lead. The defending champions then withstood the Comets' rally after scoring six runs at the top of the last inning. Peyton Lizama had a two-RBI single at the top of the ninth, while Nick Cruz and A.J. Lizama blasted an RBI triple and RBI single, respectively, and the Bears got two more runs off the Comets' miscues.

A.J. Lizama went on to finish with two RBIs and a team-best three runs off his 2-for-4 performance at the plate. Jose Lizama, Angel Palacios, and Peyton Lizama added two runs each.

## Submarine Squadron Sailors support Guam Marathon

**PITI, GUAM**—Sailors assigned to Commander, Submarine Squadron (COMSUBRON) 15 teamed up with United Service Organizations (USO) Guam to host an aid station for United Airlines Guam Marathon 2017 on Marine Corps Drive near Polaris Point last April 9.

More than 20 sailors, family members and USO staff members handed out Gatorade, water and local bananas to runners during the full marathon, which began at 3 a.m. They cheered on the participants and played music from the COMSUBRON 15 submarine float.

"Waking up early to support the runners showed great teamwork among the staff and demonstrated our dedication to continued outreach with the community of Guam," said Capt. Timothy Poe, COMSUBRON 15 Deputy for Mission Readiness. "It was especially motivating to cheer for the members of our staff

running the full marathon."

Lt. Cmdr. Michael Hartzell and Senior Chief Electronics Technician, Submarine, Communications Michael Bay, both assigned to COMSUBRON 15, participated in the 26.2 trek across the island. Many other Sailors assigned to Guam-based submarines also competed in the various races and were cheered on the different aid stations, two of which were hosted by USO and COMSUBRON 15.

"USO Guam is very grateful to COMSUBRON 15 for the aid station support at the UAGM held Sunday, April 9, 2017," said Edmund Lebita, USO Guam Area Programs Manager.

"More than 4,200 runners participated in the event that saw organizations from throughout the island supporting runners along the course from Tumon Bay to Naval Base Guam. The aid stations at Sasa Bay and Polaris Point were close to the marathon halfway turnaround,

providing runners with crucial sustenance at a key point along their run. USO Guam's partnership with COMSUBRON 15 is a model of how local and military communities can come together to support our island. Bravo Zulu to COMSUBRON 15 for a job well done!"

The 5th UAGM featured a full marathon, a half marathon, a 10K and a 5K. All races started and finished at the Gov. Joseph A. Flores Memorial Park in Ypao Beach and were followed by a fiesta celebrating the participants.

"Hosting an aid station with the USO was a great opportunity to work with one of the military's biggest supporters on island," said Senior Chief Electronics Technician Radio Eric Steele of COMSUBRON 15, who coordinated the aid station. "It also provided COMSUBRON 15 with the opportunity to show the island of Guam our support and enthusiasm at public events." (PR)

## GAMES

**From Page 28**

Ada Gymnasium.

Northern Mariana Islands Tennis Association initially expressed an interest in hosting a competition. However, NMITA official Jeff Race found out later that the schedule of the Micro Games may run in conflict with the Pacific Oceania Junior Championships where the CNMI is regularly competing every

## GSM

**From Page 28**

the bottom of the eighth allowing GSM to close out the match due to the 10-run mercy rule

GSM scored in the first six innings to break into twins digits and shut down Blue Jays from the fourth to eighth inning. Peter Sablan was the starting pitcher for GSM and after giving up two earned runs early in the first inning, he played steadier in the next six. Sablan struck out seven and stranded eight runners before Franco Flores relieved him at the top of the eighth. Flores went on to fan out the Blue Jays' first two batters and GSM finished the inning early after first baseman Byron Kaipat caught a grounder from George Cruz. Meanwhile, GSM also

## EASY

**From Page 28**

Gillian Villagomez made three goals, while Diana Maniacop scored two for MP United-TanHoldings in the first 25 minutes of play. Sherri Riggs then nailed the lone goal for MP United-TanHoldings in the second half, while Kanoa drew one apiece from Sarah Allen and Janelle Chojnacki.

With the victory, MP United-TanHoldings now has a 2-1-3 win-draw-loss record to move closer to the second-running Kanoa (3-0-3).

Paire strengthened its hold

to the top spot in the Division A following its win against Shirley's. Guinevere Borja knocked in the pair of goals for Paire (6-1-0), while Angel Sally chipped in one.

With another loss, Shirley's has yet to win this season and stays at the cellar as it absorbed its fifth defeat and has two draws.

Meanwhile, Shirley's was victorious in Division B following an 8-0 demolition of Kanoa.

Katherine Magat towed Shirley's past Kanoa after firing four goals. Michaela Carreon contributed two, while Lillian Podziewski and Joannah Carreon added one each.

Magat and company got their fifth win in as many games to keep the lead in the five-team field, while Kanoa is at the bottom of the team standings with its 0-1-5 mark.

In the other Division B game, Paire and MP United played in a scoreless draw. With the standoff, MP United is still at the No. 2 spot with its 2-2-0 slate, while Paire is ranked fourth as it now has a 0-3-2 card. Idle Kagman has a 2-0-2 record for the third spot.

In other games, MP United and MP United-2 dueled in the first match, while Topnotch faced Kanoa in the second.

# JEM Company Ltd./Mobil Basketball League Awardees

## CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



TanHoldings' Douglas Schmidt, fourth left, shows his regular season MVP trophy presented by JEM Company Ltd. owners Jovita, left, and Edward Flores, third left, during the awards ceremony for the JEM Company Ltd./Mobil Customer Appreciation Basketball League last week at the Gillette Multi-purpose Gymnasium. Also in the photo are league commissioner Marlon Sison, right, and a Mobil representative Marilyn Ejercito.



Mariana Resort's Prince Factor, fourth left, wins the Best in Blocks award.



McDonald's Sherwin Gaspar, third left, is all smiles after winning the Most Improved Player award.



Mariana Resort's Jun Fidelino, fourth left, and Jun Rueda, representing brother Ronald of Best Deal/RNV Construction, pose with the Mythical Five trophies.



Sixth Man of the Year awardee Frank Lifoifo, fourth left, of Mariana Resort pose for a photo with the awards presenters.



TanHoldings' Elmer Esdrelon, fourth left, receives his Best in Assists award.



McDonald's Gil Gapor, fourth left, shows her Mythical Five trophy.



Coca-Cola/Subway's Michael Cabanas, third left, gets the Sportsmanship Award.



Heat stay alive,  
rally to top  
Cavaliers in OT

PAGE 24

# Saipan Tribune Sports

Cubs finally raise  
championship flag,  
nip Dodgers

PAGE 25



28 WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 2017

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# GSM still perfect in SBL

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

**G**o See Mark kept its spotless record in the 2017 Saipan Baseball League after outclassing the Blue Jays, 13-3, last Monday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

## Easy wins for Paire, MPU-TanHoldings



MP United-TanHoldings' Esther Jones, right, uses her knee to block the ball, while Kanoa's Janelle Chojnacki stays close to her on defense during their Division A game in the Dove women's league last Sunday at the Chacha Oceanview Middle School Field.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Paire Football Club and MPU-TanHoldings eased past their respective foes in the Division A games of the 2017 Dove Women's Spring League last Sunday at the Chacha Oceanview Middle School Field.

MPU-TanHoldings booked the victory earlier after downing Kanoa, 6-2, while Paire recorded the last win of the weekend following a 3-0 tri-

umph over Shirley's FC.

MP United-TanHoldings capitalized on the short-handed Kanoa, which played with only five players in the first half and were down to four for awhile when one of its players took a breather due to exhaustion. One more player arrived a few minutes before the first half ended, however, the damage has been done with MP United-TanHoldings enjoying a 5-0 lead.

See EASY on Page 26



Go See Mark players and official huddle before starting their game against the Blue Jays in the 2017 Saipan Baseball League last Monday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The victory was GSM's 10th in as many games, extending the squad's lead to three against the second-running BSI Aces while denying the Blue Jays entry to the win column as the

latter fell to a 0-9 record.

Designated hitter Tyrone Omar, who was second on GSM's top of the order, led his team to the victory as he went



4-for-5 at bat and scored four RBIs and one run. Centerfielder Anthony Tenorio added two RBIs off his 3-for-4 performance and the

plate and posted a game-high five runs. Jesse Brel was only 1-for-3 at the plate, but made three runs with his last one at

See GSM on Page 26

## No swimming, tennis in 2018 Micro Games

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Two sports that have consistently delivered medals to the CNMI have been dropped from the calendar of events for the 2018 Micronesian Games.

Host Yap, during the meeting of representatives of participating countries in the Micro Games, said that they will not be holding swimming and tennis competitions in next year's event. Fast-pitch softball, traditional sailing, and 3 vs 3 basketball have been scrapped from the list, too, leaving athletics, baseball, basketball, beach volleyball, indoor volleyball, Micro All-Around, paddling, soccer (men's 11 aside and women's 7 aside), spearfishing, table tennis, weightlifting, and wrestling the sports to be contested in



ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Ken Song competes in a local tennis tournament held at the Pacific Islands Club early this year. Tennis is dropped from the calendar of events for the 2018 Micronesian Games that will be held in Yap.



the Micro Games.

Northern Marianas Sports Association president Michael White, who represented Team Marianas in the meeting held last month, also said that Yap has offered to other island-nations the hosting rights of the events it could not hold. However, the CNMI, Pohnpei, Chuuk, Kosrae, Guam, Palau, the Marshall Islands, and Kiribati were given only a month after the March 7 meeting to turn in their bids.

"I don't think that other countries will be able to host these events separately," White said during the NMSA's monthly meeting last Thursday at the conference room of the Gilbert C. See GAMES on Page 26